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# do it YOURSELF

35  
Projects  
Under  
\$20

## 78 Clever Ideas

- \* Storage
- \* Furniture
- \* Wall Art
- \* Textiles

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a Desk

Turn Boxes  
into Drawers

Make a Shelf

Paint a  
Lamp

Fall 2013  
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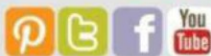
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# do it YOURSELF™ fall 2013

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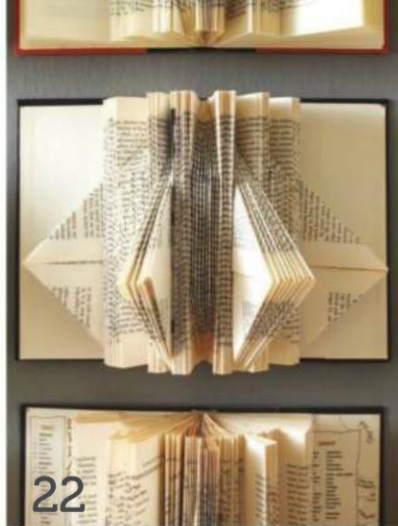
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# projects, tools, and inspiration

Go online for more of our fave creative ideas and how-to tips.

## Sweet dreams

See before and after pics of a budget-savvy bedroom makeover.

[BHG.com/DIYBedroomRedo](http://BHG.com/DIYBedroomRedo)

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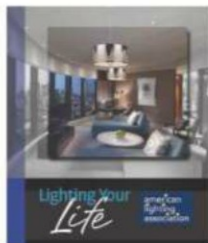
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See page 25 for details.



# Lighting Idea Center

24/7 INFORMATION & INSPIRATION



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*Lighting Your Life*, an American Lighting Association publication, shows you how to use lighting to add beauty and drama to a room, as well as save energy and create a functional environment. With images of the latest lighting designs throughout, this brochure offers up-to-date home lighting information, including the latest trends in lighting and energy-efficiency tips.

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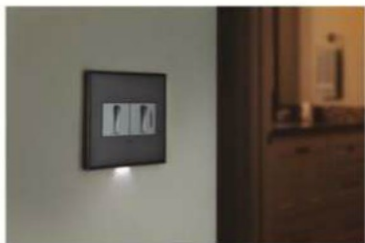


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## Why we DIY

Several months ago, *Do It Yourself*<sup>TM</sup> sent a survey to many of our readers. We wanted to find out what you love about the magazine, what you'd change, and what makes you pick up the paintbrush or power tool and get to work. Your responses have helped us get to know you better. Here are a few things we learned:

- You love makeovers of every kind: furniture makeovers, wall makeovers, room makeovers, whole-house makeovers.

- You like to tackle crafty projects—paper, fabric, surface updates—but you're not afraid to use bigger materials, such as concrete, plywood, and metal.

- You love power tools! Most of you own a drill and a saw. And you know how to use them.

But my favorite takeaway was your response to our question, *Why do you DIY?* What drives you to make things yourself? To tackle a home improvement project? To try a new material or medium?

To the surprise of many, the resounding answer was *not to save money*. You told us your primary reason for creating is *to personalize my home*. Making your personal spaces an extension of beautiful, unique you is why we do what we do in every issue of *Do It Yourself*. (Saving a few dollars is icing on the cake.)

I hope our issues continue to inspire you to make things and try fresh, fun ideas. Share what you're working on this weekend at [facebook.com/diyideas](https://facebook.com/diyideas).

*Bethany*

Bethany Kohoutek,  
*Do It Yourself*<sup>TM</sup> editor



Team DIY practiced the art of the fold during a recent origami-inspired "crafternoon." My talented friend, designer Katie Leporte, *top left*, piqued our interest in the ancient Japanese technique. I think you'll love her sophisticated interpretation (complete with how-to) on page 54.





try it

# CAST away

Turn resin into remarkable home accents using simple hardware, hobby, and household items as molds.

projects **JODI MENSING HARRIS**

photographs **STEVEN MCDONALD**

words **EMILY COOK**

## Push play

These pushpins (and the other projects in this story) use resin, a fun and versatile medium made from a 1:1 ratio of epoxy resin and polyamine hardener, available at hobby stores. Work in a well-ventilated area, and wear eye and hand protection. Cover your work surface with a drop cloth. To make these pretty pushpins, follow the technique and use the rubber molds from the napkin ring and button projects (*pages 11 and 13*). When the resin is dry, affix the piece to the top of a thumbtack with hot glue.





### Ring thing

Dress up your dinner table with sweet napkin rings. Stir acrylic crafts paint into a 1:1 mixture of epoxy resin and polyamine hardener (a). Pour resin into a rubber mold (b). Our mold was designed for fondant. Let dry for 24 hours. If you want to curve the resin around the napkin ring, remove the decoration from the mold before it has hardened. Carefully bend the pliable resin over the curve of the ring, hot-glue to the ring, and then set aside to finish drying.



try it

### Moments in time

Display a treasured photo in this easy frame. Cut out your image. Cut a second paper circle and adhere it to the back of the photo to give it heft. Seal both sides with decoupage medium; let dry. Spray a soap mold with mold release before adding the resin, a 1:1 mixture of epoxy resin and polyamine hardener, and the photo (a). Use a toothpick to embed the photo facedown in the resin (b). Let dry 24 hours before removing the frame from the mold. To finish, cut pretty paper to fit the back of the frame and secure with spray adhesive. Display the finished project on a mini easel.







### Cute as a button

Take handmade to the next level by making your own buttons. Pour a 1:1 mixture of epoxy resin and polyamine hardener into a button-shape fondant mold. To color the resin, stir in a small amount of acrylic crafts paint. To add sparkle, sprinkle the backs of the buttons with glitter (a) or incorporate the glitter into the resin using a toothpick (b). If resin covers the button holes, remove the button from the mold while it's still rubbery and use a pin to poke through the holes. Otherwise let dry 24 hours before popping the buttons out of the mold.



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### Catching rays

Hang this sea-glass-inspired mobile in a sunny window to reflect light and color throughout a room. Pour a 1:1 mixture of epoxy resin and polyamine hardener into rubber ice cube trays designed for water bottle ice cubes (a). Add one or two drops of food coloring to each mold, and mix with a stir stick. Once dry, remove the reflectors from the mold, and insert a screw eye into the top of each. Tie fishing line to the hooks, and suspend the reflectors at varying heights from a metal ring.







### A-door-nment

Use resin to round out the style of a utilitarian concave-face doorknob. Remove knob from door. Punch a piece of scrapbook paper to fit face of knob. Snip a slit to the center of the paper so that it fits the curvature of the knob (a). Adhere the paper to the doorknob, and seal with two coats of decoupage medium (b). Once dry, place a decorative bauble at the center of the handle. Working on a level surface, pour a 1:1 mixture of epoxy resin and polyamine hardener on top (c). Wait 24 hours before reinstalling the doorknob.





try it

## Pretty pulls

Refresh cabinet doors with flirty, floral resin knobs cast in a contact lens case. Spray the case with mold release; pour in the resin. Position a piece of vintage jewelry upside-down in the mold. When resin has the consistency of gel (after about 20 minutes), top with a machine screw inserted at a 90-degree angle (a). Let dry 24 hours before removing the knob from its mold. Before installing, thread a machine nut onto the screw to create space between the knob and the cabinet door.



## Paper press

Craft this pretty paperweight to secure stray documents on your desk or counter. Pour resin into a plastic paint-mixing cup coated with mold release. Use a toothpick to "float" dried flowers in the resin (a) at various levels to give dimension (we used dried baby's breath). Let dry before popping the paperweight from its mold.







## Table topper

Upgrade an unassuming table with a luxe, polished surface that looks high-end. For larger projects like this, use a pourable high-gloss polymer coating such as EnviroTex Lite (a). Spray the tabletop with two coats of acrylic sealer and let dry. Trim a piece of pretty paper to fit the tabletop, and carefully apply it with decoupage medium, smoothing out any air bubbles. When dry, brush on two additional coats of decoupage medium; let dry. Mix the resin following the manufacturer's instructions. Make sure the table is level, and then pour the resin onto the tabletop in a spiral pattern, working from the outside in until the surface is covered. While drying, cover the project without touching the tabletop to protect the finish from debris.

For Resources see page 108.





order in the house



# stow away

From porch to garden, clever places to stash essentials will keep your outdoor spaces shipshape from every angle.

words + styling **PAMELA PORTER** | photograph (above) **CAMERON SADEGHPOUR**



Team DIY  
**Pamela  
Porter**



Blustery winds, rain, and snow can leave outdoor furniture looking worn and weathered. If storing items indoors off season is not an option, consider quality covers to protect outdoor furnishings. Covers are readily available for most furniture types, cushions, grills, even hose reels and outdoor heaters.

Whether you're entertaining alfresco or prettying up the yard, the great outdoors requires some of the same items needed indoors. The do-it-yourself coffee table, *opposite*, features removable panels that reveal galvanized washtubs, which provide storage or serve up cold beverages. We think you'll like these other hardworking helpers just as much as we do.

### 1. Cushion keeper

Featuring an aluminum frame, this sturdy bin from Frontgate comes with a cover to protect cushions. Wheels provide mobility, plus the unit can fold down when not in use. \$149; [frontgate.com](http://frontgate.com)



### 2. Fashion show

This stylish Macbeth Collection metal tote is perfect for outdoor gatherings. Load it with utensils, or use it as a safe place to drop sunglasses, keys, and phones. Choose from more than 500 designer patterns and several fonts. \$42; [themacbethcollection.com](http://themacbethcollection.com)



### 3. Bucket list

Keep all your garden tools organized and on hand with this sturdy canvas caddy from Fiskars. Just secure the caddy around a 5-gallon bucket and you're ready to face those outdoor chores. \$11; [fiskars.com](http://fiskars.com)

### 4. Durable design

Melamine is a perfect solution for outdoor dining, and for plastic wares that are oh-so pretty, look no further than French Bull. The Dahlia Trio tray is just one example of terrific tableware. \$26; [frenchbull.com](http://frenchbull.com)







Brush on cabinets



Roll on countertops



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## order in the house



### 5. Take shelter

Craftsman's heavy-duty 8x4-foot resin shed boasts a steel-reinforced roof and double-wall construction. Plus it works with the company's VersaTrack storage system. \$465; [craftsman.com](http://craftsman.com)

### 6. Reel it in

The Neverleak aluminum wall-mount hose reel holds 125 feet of hose and its aluminum construction resists corrosion. The ornamental details, easy-spin handle, and storage shelf make this a favorite. \$80; [ames.com](http://ames.com); available at Lowe's.



### 7. On the bench

Constructed of cedar, Hayneedle's Windsor potting bench resists mildew and decay. A handy drawer keeps tools safe, and a plastic tray beneath the removable panel is perfect for soil or extra storage. \$400; [hayneedle.com](http://hayneedle.com)







Before transformation



Roll-on stone finish



Finished results



Endless possibilities



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# what to do with old books

## What we did...

This textural wall art was made from old books found at flea markets. We chose hardcover books similar in size and page count. Using a book or two with art on the inside cover adds to the appeal of the final grouping. We hung nine books in rows of three by securing them with brads hammered into the corners of each book.

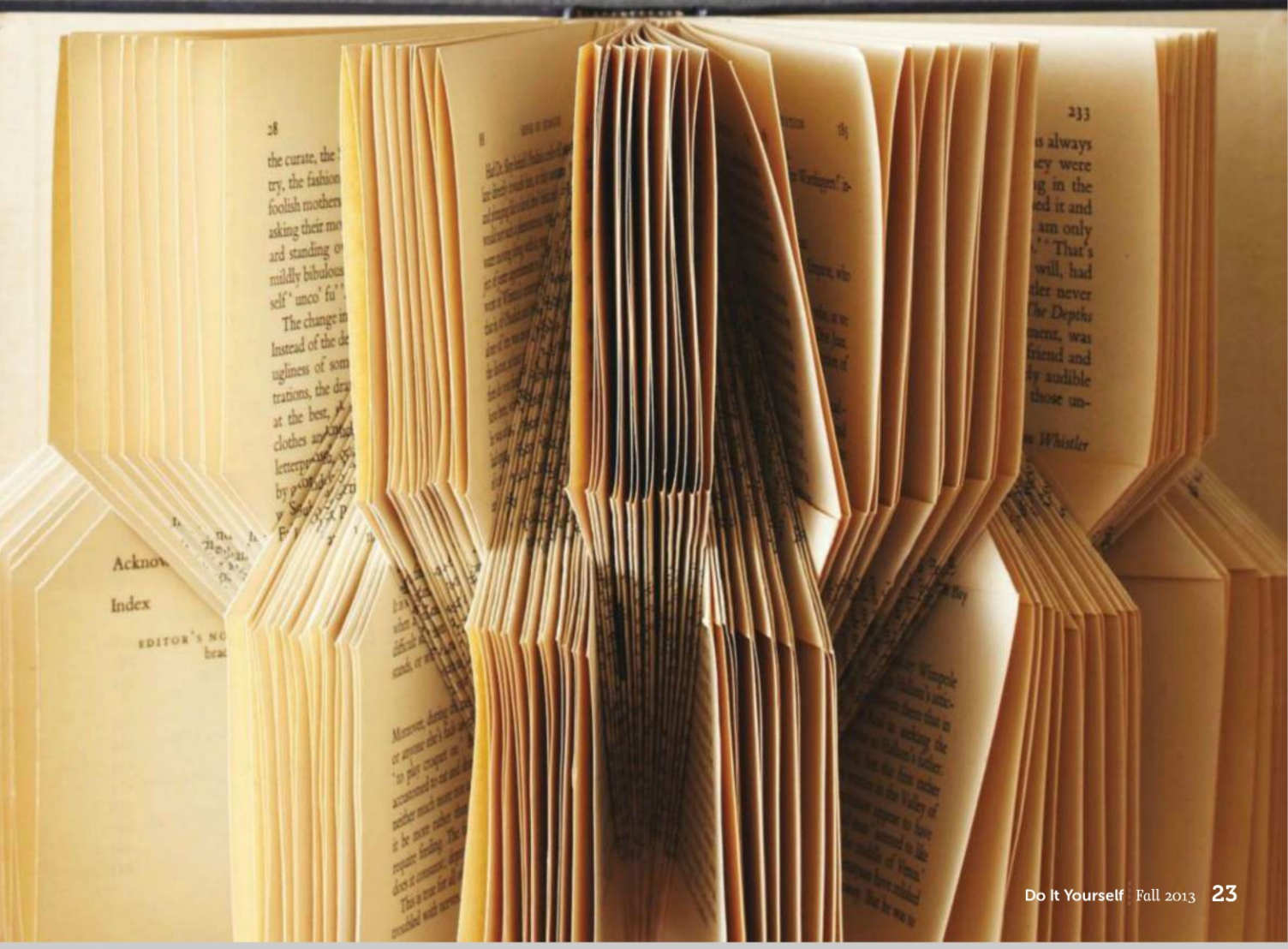




# between the lines

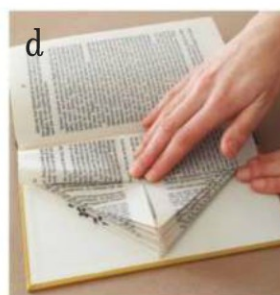
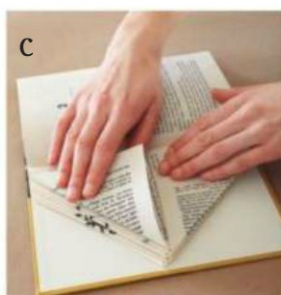
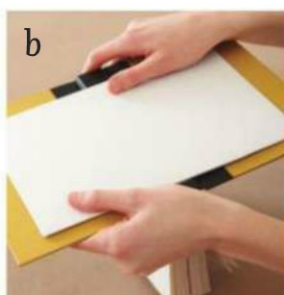
Transform cast-off books from page-turners to head-turners with this simple fold-and-hang technique.

projects **MAX WILKER** | styling & words **BRENDA WEGNER** | photographs **JAY WILDE**





# what to do with old books



## how to create book art

What you'll need:

- Hardcover books
- Hot-glue gun and glue sticks
- Backer board

### step 1

Cut the backer board into a rectangle 1–2 inches smaller than the back of your book. Apply hot glue to the backer board (a).

### step 2

Open the book and press in the center, along the spine, so the cover lies flat. Press the glued side of the backer board to the open cover, and hold for about a minute until the glue dries (b).

### step 3

Determine the fold or folds you want to use to achieve your final look. Begin folding pages at the front of the book (c). Fold each page in the book the same to achieve a uniform design (*top left*). To achieve variegated designs (*top right*) count the total number of pages and divide the book into even sections. Use one type of fold in each section (d). To make your design symmetrical, fold one section in the front of the book and then repeat the pattern with the same number of pages from the back of the book.



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# on our radar

Whether you spend autumn savoring your garden's bounty, curling up with a crafts project, or fluffing your nest, these products bring the comfy as days get cooler.

producers **CHELSEA EVERS & BRIAN KRAMER**

photographs **MARTY BALDWIN**

words **CHELSEA EVERS**

## Snuggle time

No matter your skill level or style, you can find a pillow kit that includes everything you need to create a custom cushion. Starting at \$18. From top to bottom:

- Pillow stencils [creativestencils.etsy.com](http://creativestencils.etsy.com)
- Felt rosette pillows [tadaastudio.com](http://tadaastudio.com)
- Embroidered map pillow [brooklynassembly.etsy.com](http://brooklynassembly.etsy.com)
- Colorable critters [pukaca.etsy.com](http://pukaca.etsy.com)
- Needlepoint pillows [modernneedleworks.com](http://modernneedleworks.com)
- Postcard pillow [mypillowfactory.etsy.com](http://mypillowfactory.etsy.com)





### 1. Bead the way

String together your own custom bracelets, necklaces, or key chains with these geometric beads and colorful cords. Choose from a treasure trove of hand-painted pastel, neon, metallic, or patterned wooden beads in a variety of shapes and sizes. \$29 for 30 beads; [likebeads8.etsy.com](http://likebeads8.etsy.com)

### 2. Dig in

Plant new Better Homes and Gardens® Drumline tulip bulbs this fall and enjoy bold, brilliant red blooms next May. The 12-inch trowel features depth markings on its stainless-steel blade to help you dig smarter. \$19 for a dozen bulbs; trowel, \$23; [whiteflowerfarm.com](http://whiteflowerfarm.com)

### 3. Easy freezy

These plastic freezer jars are perfect for preserving jams and salsas without investing in canning supplies. The dishwasher-safe jars from Ball are stackable, leakproof, and BPA-free. \$5 for three 8-ounce or two 16-ounce jars; [freshpreserving.com](http://freshpreserving.com)

### 4. Print panache

Artist Meagan Lewis shares her favorite (and super-easy) ways to carve handmade rubber stamps for wood, fabric, and paper projects. Her new book *Put Your Stamp On It* abounds with ideas for one-of-a-kind gift wrap, tea towels, aprons, and other accessories. \$20; [chroniclebooks.com](http://chroniclebooks.com)







5

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### 5. Clean lines

Ideal for just-primed or painted walls, this low-adhesion painter's tape removes cleanly from delicate surfaces up to 60 days after application. FrogTape's PaintBlock technology gels to seal edges, resulting in sharp lines and fewer touch-ups. Starting at \$13; [frogtape.com](http://frogtape.com)

### 6. Insta-book

Digital memories become tangible when published in your own photo book. Choose a size and layout, upload your fave Instagram photos, and add text. The softcover albums are printed on thick, 100-percent-recycled paper. Starting at \$13; [artifactsuprising.com](http://artifactsuprising.com)

### 7. All grown up

Start your own new plants by clipping off a stem and submerging in water to form roots. The notched lid on the soilless Rootcup protects plants from the sun and encourages root growth until your lil' darlings are ready to move into soil. \$14; [uncommongoods.com](http://uncommongoods.com)

### 8. Magic wand

Attach this extendable cleaning tool to a garden hose and spray leaves and other debris from gutters, sidewalks, and driveways with ease. The telescoping wand, ergonomic grip, and hooked nozzle mean less work for tired arms. \$20; [farmandfleet.com](http://farmandfleet.com)

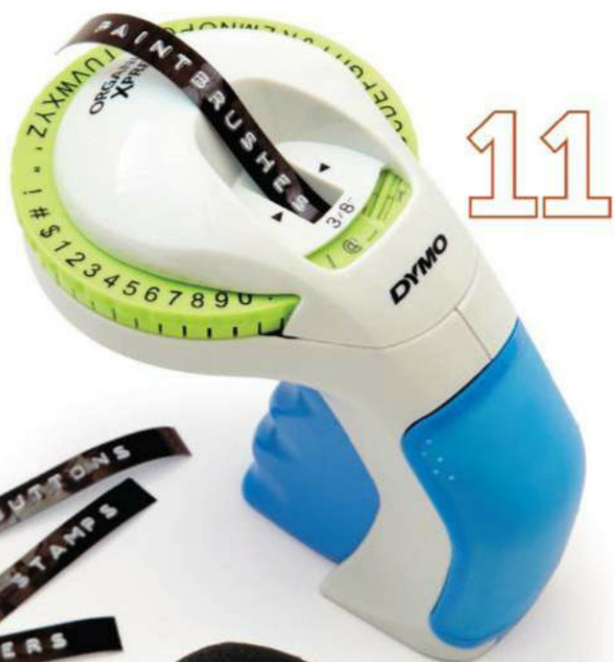
### 9. Pattern play

Press washi tape onto glass, plastic, paper, or metal—then remove and reposition it as you please. Each roll includes 10 yards of paper tape available in a variety of widths and patterns. \$3 per roll; [queenandcompany.com](http://queenandcompany.com)





10



11



12



13

### 10. Fashion fix

Blogger Jenni Radosevich shows you how to transform basic garments and thrift store finds into a runway-worthy wardrobe. *I Spy DIY Style* details 30 projects including spiked flats, studded button-downs, and feather earrings. \$22; [randomhouse.com](http://randomhouse.com)

### 11. That '70s label

A soft-grip handle and improved cutting feature update this classic embossing label maker. The battery-free tool is compatible with a colorful array of Dymo  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch plastic embossing tapes. \$13; [dymo.com](http://dymo.com)

### 12. Eco-energy

This intuitive thermostat learns your habits and automatically adjusts your home's temperature when you're at work or asleep. Revise the programmed schedule using your computer or smartphone and save up to 20 percent on energy bills. \$249; [nest.com](http://nest.com)

### 13. Toe toy

Bring back childhood memories with a Munkybuns sock monkey in dozens of funky patterns. Each kit comes with pre-sewn appendages and coordinating thread and eye buttons. Assemble, stuff, and adore. \$13; [munkybunssocktoys.etsy.com](http://munkybunssocktoys.etsy.com)



14



15



16

17



#### 14. Stop the slop

Instead of messing up a paintbrush for a small job, fill these felt-tipped tubes using the included pump and squeeze only what you need. Cap and store tubes for quick touch-ups, or wash and refill them for future projects. Available in two sizes. \$5–\$7; [colorglidepro.com](http://colorglidepro.com)

#### 15. That's a wrap

Skip the pricey print shop and make your own gallery-style canvas art with this kit. Print an image onto the included canvas paper, mount it to the adhesive-lined frame, fold the corners, and snap into place. \$30 for kit to create three 8x10-inch pieces; [canvasphotowraps.com](http://canvasphotowraps.com)

#### 16. Round here

Ideal for any crafter, circular looms are an easy way to work up hats, sweaters, scarves, and other woolen accessories. The kit includes four sizes of looms, plus a hook, pick tool, and zippered carrying case. \$16; [cricut.com](http://cricut.com)

#### 17. Heavy duty

Tackle home repairs, upholstery, and craft projects with the TruTac hand stapler. The ergonomic handle is easy to squeeze and promises fewer misfires and greater precision than standard staplers. \$15; [arrowfastener.com](http://arrowfastener.com)



# a cut above

The right saw can make any project easier—even for a novice DIYer.

words **MEGAN BOETTCHER**

| TOOL                                                                                                                                                                                                       | PRICE | WHAT IT DOES                                                                                                                                                                            | WHY WE LIKE IT                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Craftsman 24-inch fine 12-point handsaw with soft-grip handle</b><br><a href="http://craftsman.com">craftsman.com</a>  | \$23  | Handsaws are great for a variety of general woodworking projects. With lots of small teeth, this lightweight saw is ideal for fine cuts on delicate surfaces.                           | It's oh, so easy to use. A soft grip makes the handle more comfortable for repetitive use. The 1 mm blade offers rigidity and reduces binding.                                    |
| <b>Black &amp; Decker Linefinder orbital jigsaw</b><br><a href="http://blackanddecker.com">blackanddecker.com</a>         | \$50  | To make both straight and curved cuts, a jigsaw is the right tool for the job. It can cut a variety of materials, such as wood, light metals, plastic, ceramic tile, and drywall.       | Get goof-proof curved cuts by turning the dial to select one of the preset shapes. A light illuminates the proper curved path.                                                    |
| <b>Porter-Cable 10-inch jobsite table saw</b><br><a href="http://portercable.com">portercable.com</a>                     | \$299 | A table saw is a workhorse and a great option for the home-reno enthusiast. The saw can handle a wide range of projects, such as building furniture and replacing trim.                 | You don't need a permanent shop in your home to house this table saw. Built-in accessory storage and 8-inch wheels mean you can roll out the saw whenever you're ready to work.   |
| <b>Rockwell Tools 12-amp reciprocating saw</b><br><a href="http://rockwelltools.com">rockwelltools.com</a>              | \$160 | Used primarily for demolition or rough cuts, reciprocating saws can quickly slice through materials such as metal, masonry, wood, plaster, fiberglass, stucco, composites, and drywall. | It won't wear you out! Reduced vibration and a weight of less than 9 pounds make this product easier to hold for extended periods.                                                |
| <b>Ryobi 7¼-inch circular saw with LED</b><br><a href="http://ryobitools.com">ryobitools.com</a>                         | \$69  | Circular saws are popular among DIYers because they're mobile and versatile. They can even handle ripping plywood.                                                                      | You can see the cut line in the dimmest of lighting with this circular saw's attached LED.                                                                                        |
| <b>Bosch Tools 12-inch single-bevel compound miter saw</b><br><a href="http://boschtools.com">boschtools.com</a>        | \$360 | Cutting at an angle is simplified with a power miter saw. It's ideal for creating clean corners for trim, crown molding, and other final touches.                                       | Take your projects to the next level without taking up too much space. This saw is simple for one person to maneuver with its compact design and one-handed rear carrying handle. |

## Saw smarts

New technology makes wielding a saw easier—and more comfortable.

### Get a grip

Have you ever felt your hands still tingling minutes after using a saw? Manufacturers have made great strides in reducing the vibration of handheld power tools. Ergonomically designed handles also improve the feel of operating a saw.

### Light show

Built-in LEDs make saws easier (and safer) to use. In addition to improving the visibility of your cutting line, some products even cast a path for you to follow for a specialty cut.

### Slam on the brakes

Working with saws can be dangerous. New technology available in some table saws activates a brake to stop the blade if it comes in contact with flesh. Safety suggestions include wearing protective safety glasses and avoiding loose clothing or dangling jewelry.





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A top-down view of kitchen renovation supplies. In the upper left, a paintbrush with a wooden handle and a metal ferrule labeled '3" 76.2mm' lies on a solid blue background. To its right, a white bowl is filled with various cabinet knobs and pulls, including green glass, brass, and ceramic designs. Below the bowl, two open paint cans are visible: one containing bright yellow paint and the other a light mint green. The background is a mix of textures: a solid blue surface, white hexagonal tiles with dark green grout, and a white subway tile pattern with blue grout. In the bottom right corner, a small portion of a blue ceramic bowl is visible.

# fast kitchen facelifts

Introduce your signature style in the room where everyone loves to congregate—the kitchen. A new look is just a weekend away.

words **MEGAN BOETTCHER** | photograph **JAY WILDE**



# make it yours

Take your kitchen from drab to fab with quick and easy cabinet door updates.

projects **JODI MENSING HARRIS** | photographs **STEVEN MCDONALD**

## Here, kitty, kitty

**RIGHT:** Accent the cabinet doors in your kitchen office area with chalkboard paint and a colorful silhouette. Paint the entire door with green chalkboard paint. For a quick tutorial video on painting cabinets, go to [BHG.com/DIYPaintCabinets](http://BHG.com/DIYPaintCabinets). Trace the design you want—we used a cat—on contact paper. Cut out the cat stencil. Peel off the backing and adhere the contact paper to the cabinet door. Paint the surface with brown chalkboard paint (a). Remove the contact paper before the paint dries (b). Allow paint to dry before reinstalling the door and making notes with chalk.







### Down by the bay

ABOVE: Create a beachy vibe in a kitchen—or bath—with sea-glass-inspired mosaic tile installed on cabinet door panels. Start with a door painted in your desired color. Trim tile sheets to match the size of the door panel. Brush tile adhesive on the cabinet and set the tiles on the door (a). Allow to dry. If the mesh behind the tile is visible, consider adding grout. Tile will add weight to the door, so be sure to purchase high-quality hinges.



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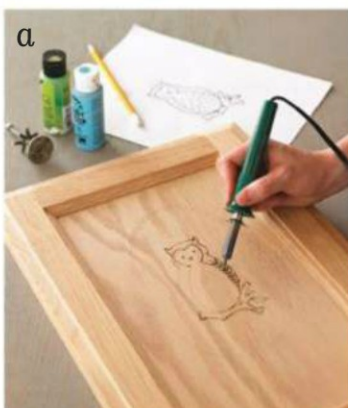


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### Owl be amazed

ABOVE: Surprise yourself and your guests with an accent cabinet (or two) that's as easy to create as it is adorable. Print a pattern in the desired size. We found this owl on [french-knots.com](http://french-knots.com). Use carbon paper to transfer the pattern to the wood door. Trace the lines with a woodburning tool (a). The longer you leave the wood burner on the wood, the darker and wider the line will be. When you are finished woodburning, fill in the design with crafts paint. Finish the door with a coat of polyurethane to protect the design. Allow to dry completely before reinstalling.





"Your kitchen really reflects your personality when your cabinets display your handiwork."

JODI MENSING HARRIS PROJECT DESIGNER

Special thanks to: CabinetNow ([cabinetnow.com](http://cabinetnow.com))

### Walk in the park

LEFT: A large floral motif (in high-contrast neutral shades) refreshes plain cabinet doors. If the door is unfinished, apply a coat of polyurethane. Allow to dry. This prevents the design from bleeding into the wood grain. Cover the center panel with painter's tape. Paint or stain the outside trim a dark brown (a). Allow to dry. Remove painter's tape. Create floral designs with oil-base paint markers. We started with several large white flowers and then balanced with brown flowers. Fill in, as desired, with a variety of flower sizes. Allow to dry. Finish the flowers by drawing small circles in the contrasting color at the center of each (b).





special section

# pull it together

Dress up your cabinets with pulls made from basic—and cheap—supplies from crafts and hardware stores.

projects **KAREN BRADY AND ARIN HUMMEL/EPHEMERA DESIGN** | photographs **KRITSADA**





## Fashioned from fabric

OPPOSITE and BELOW: Add color to your kitchen with pulls made from fabric. We used a floral-print oilcloth that is as durable as it is beautiful. Cut a long narrow strip of oilcloth. (Ours is 1¼x14 inches.) Fold it in half so it's about 7 inches long. Stitch the two long sides and the folded end to create a pocket. Cut heavy cardstock to slide inside the pocket; we used three layers of cardstock strips to gain enough support. Stitch the pocket closed. Attach the pulls to your cabinet with screws painted in a coordinating color.

## Pretty as a picture

RIGHT: Paper placed between acrylic sheets quickly personalizes any space. Use a straightedge to accurately trim the plexiglass to size. You need two pieces for each pull. (We cut 1¾x5-inch pieces.) Cut your paper to the same size and adhere it, face up, to one piece of plexiglass with decoupage medium. Consider using patterned paper, photos, or your own designs. After it dries, top with the second piece of acrylic and hold with tape while you drill holes. Attach it to the door with long screws and a spacer.

## Industrial touch

BELOW RIGHT: The modern design of this metal pull comes from a simple plumbing fixture. We cut a long pipe bracket found at the hardware store into 5-inch lengths and spray-painted it. Clear varnish spray protects the pull. Predrilled holes make it easy to attach. Place spacers behind it to create the desired depth for gripping.







### Budget beater

THIS PHOTO: Created from wood shims, graphic paper, and pipe straps, these cabinetry pulls go easy on the pocketbook. Spray-paint shims (cut to 4 inches long) and pipe straps. Use decoupage medium to adhere the paper of your choice to the wood. After it dries, attach the pipe straps with an industrial-strength glue, such as E6000. Screw the pull directly to the cabinet door.



## Cool runnings

**RIGHT:** Stacked freezer-pop sticks offer the shape of traditional, store-bought cabinetry hardware for much less. Paint the sticks with acrylic paint in assorted colors. Adhere the stack with wood glue. When the glue dries, saw off the rounded ends. Use unpainted sticks to frame the stack. Spray the entire piece with clear varnish. Attach to the cabinet with screws and spacers.

## Falling for geometrics

**BELOW:** Wood blocks covered in acrylic paint, gold leaf, and washi tape energize cabinets with playful shapes. Attach the tape to the blocks at 45-degree angles. In a few places use the tape as a mask to create crisp lines in the paint. Place blocks on the doors with double-sided tape to confirm placement before drilling through the back of the cabinet doors into the blocks.

## Tube-ular design

**BELOW RIGHT:** PVC pipe gets a pretty makeover in this oh-so-simple cabinetry pull design. Cut a 1-inch-diameter pipe to your desired length. (This one is 4 inches long.) Spray-paint and cover with a clear coat of varnish. Attach from the back of the cabinet door with short, wide screws.



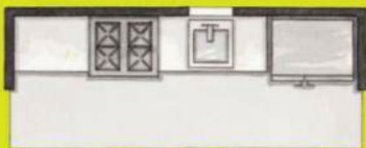


# the big picture

If you're dreaming about more than just a quick makeover, consider these helpful kitchen planning tips.

## FLOOR PLAN IDEAS

Use these sample floor plans to gather ideas about placement of elements. The traditional kitchen layout is based on the idea of creating a work triangle, with imaginary lines drawn between the sink, range, and refrigerator. If you'll have multiple cooks working in the kitchen simultaneously, you might want to think about the room design in terms of zones or workstations devoted to specific tasks, such as cooking, cleaning, and storage.



### Single wall

This space-saving plan works most efficiently when the sink is centered on the wall and flanked by the refrigerator and the cooktop or range. If possible, allow 4 feet of counter on each side of the sink for food prep and cleanup.



### Two-wall galley

Parallel walls contain three workstations. This compact plan lets the cook move easily between areas, but traffic will interfere unless the aisle is at least 4 feet wide. Ideally, the sink and refrigerator should share a wall.



### L shape with island

With workstations on two adjacent walls, this plan adds an island. This plan works best in a 10x10-foot or larger room and makes space for a second cook; the island routes traffic out of the L's corner.



### U shape

This floor plan is most efficient with one workstation on each of the three walls. The primary cook can pivot from one station to another, while the second cook shares one leg of the triangle. The base of the U should be at least 8 feet long to help cooks feel comfortable.



### U shape with island

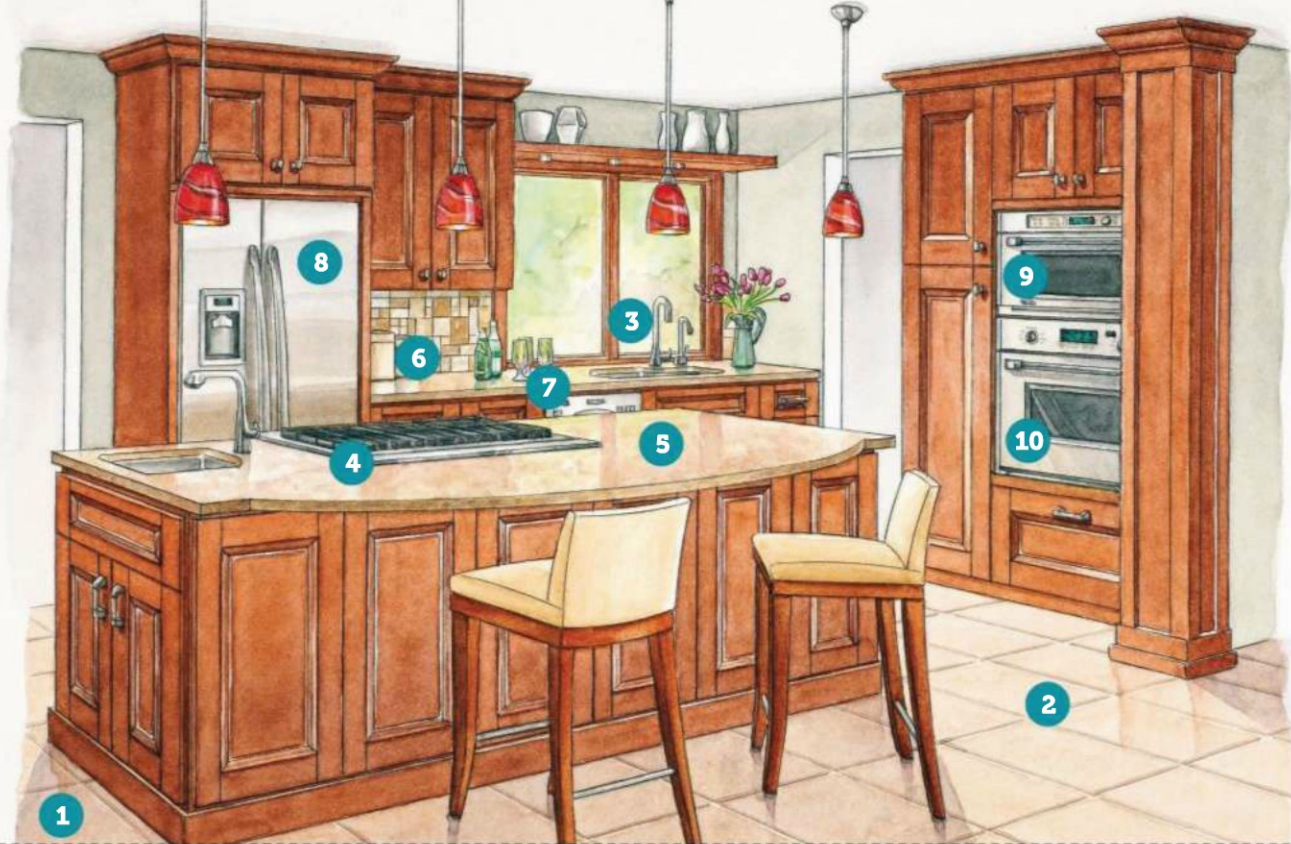
Installing a sink or cooktop in the island allows multiple cooks to work at the same time. Plan 42 inches of aisle space on all sides of the island. (In a two-cook kitchen, 48 inches is even better.) Island plans are inefficient when workstations are on opposite walls.



### Multiple work zones

Featuring two walls and an island in the work core, this kitchen offers multiple prep areas so two cooks need not cross paths. A butler's pantry and walk-in food pantry offer plentiful storage and additional prep and entertaining space with easy access to the primary work zones.





# kitchen measurements

Follow these guidelines to ensure your kitchen is comfortable and safe.

## 1. Walkways

Walkways should be at least 36 inches wide.

## 2. Work aisles

The width of work aisles should be at least 42 inches in a one-cook kitchen and 48 inches in kitchens designed for multiple cooks.

## 3. Sink

If a kitchen has one sink, locate it next to or across from the cooking surface. For a primary sink, provide a continuous countertop at least 36 inches wide next to the sink. For a prep sink, provide a 24-inch-wide landing area to one side of the sink and an 18-inch-wide landing area on the other.

## 4. Cooktop

Include a 12-inch-wide landing area on one side of the cooktop and a 15-inch-wide landing area

on the other. (Landing areas should be at the same height as the cooktop.) Allow 24–30 inches of clearance above the cooktop.

## 5. Countertops

The standard countertop height is 36 inches. Allow 15–18 inches of space between the countertop and the bottom of upper cabinets.

## 6. Food prep area

Include a 36-inch-wide work surface for each cook (adjacent to a water source).

## 7. Dishwasher

Locate the dishwasher no more than 36 inches from the cleanup sink.

## 8. Refrigerator

Provide a 15-inch landing area on the handle side of the refrigerator; a 15-inch landing

area on both sides of a side-by-side refrigerator; a 15-inch landing area no more than 48 inches from the front of the refrigerator; or a 15-inch landing area above or adjacent to an undercounter refrigerator.

## 9. Microwave

The bottom of the microwave should be at least 3 inches below the principal user's shoulder but no more than 54 inches above the floor. Provide a 15-inch-wide counter space above, below, or on the handle side of the microwave.

## 10. Oven

Provide a 15-inch-wide counter space above or adjacent to the oven, or on an island or peninsula no more than 48 inches away.

## How-to videos

### TILE A BACKSPLASH

Tile is one of the easiest ways to update the look of a kitchen. Learn how to install your own backsplash tile. [BHG.com/DIYTile](http://BHG.com/DIYTile)

### PAINT CABINETRY

Save thousands of dollars by repainting instead of replacing cabinets. This video shows you how to get started. [BHG.com/DIYPaintCabinets](http://BHG.com/DIYPaintCabinets)

### INSTALL LAMINATE FLOORING

Refresh the look of your home with flooring that quickly clicks together. See how it works. [BHG.com/DIYFlooring](http://BHG.com/DIYFlooring)





### What they did...

THIS PHOTO: Homeowner Geoff Wood found an old chalkboard at a university surplus sale for \$10. After a good cleaning and fresh coat of chalkboard paint, Regan Wood says, "The kids draw to their hearts' content in the dining area while we whip up dinner." The striped paint pattern on the wall adds interest without being busy. It runs along three walls and around a window. To get the look, careful measuring is key—so is painter's tape.





# wood work

Operating on a budget and a vision, a North Carolina couple rolled up their sleeves and changed a tumbledown cottage into a light-filled family nest.

words **JENNIFER WILSON** | photographs **RICHARD LEO JOHNSON** | styling **ANDREA CAUGHEY**

Once upon a time, in an old Raleigh neighborhood, there lived a crafter and a photographer who poured their design skills and keen work ethic into a ramshackle 1,200-square-foot cottage, transforming it

into a cozy home for their two children, Gibson and Crosby.

In fact, every time Regan and Geoff Wood tackled a major part of the renovation, Regan was either expecting or holding a new baby. The finished home—vintage bones with contemporary details—is physical proof that you can survive big do-it-yourself projects with a family, Regan says.

“We bought the house because we could see its potential,” she says. “We renovated, painted, or restored almost every inch. It wasn’t without frustration and lost sleep, but it was totally worth it to get the result we wanted.”

They renovated the downstairs bath and kitchen, and added a dormer to the attic. They

hired out framing, electrical, and plumbing jobs, but the rest was the work of their hands. It kept costs down—the kitchen cost them \$6,000, and the dormer, master bath, and laundry ran about \$28,000 total.

“I built the bath vanity,” Geoff says. “It’s a combination of two IKEA cabinets and some birch plywood I had. And of course, a whole lot of blood, sweat, and oh-so-many tears.”

The fun part was adding style points. Geoff and Regan browsed higher-end stores then duplicated the looks with products from IKEA and thrift and salvage shops. They mixed in natural elements, such as birchbark logs wrapping a light fixture and acorns and seeds the kids collected. Color details—a dash of tangerine on an eave, new turquoise knobs

on an old dresser—keep the look fresh.

Geoff’s photography fills the walls. In the living room, he added a plywood-paneled media wall and a shelf-filled niche for his camera collection.

Regan shopped online and in fabrics outlets for materials to handcraft details such as pillows and window treatments. She made a silhouette of herself and Gibson on wood to commemorate a wedding anniversary. “I’d love to do another one soon and have our whole family on it,” Regan says.

Sounds like the perfect way to capture the spirit of a hardworking happily ever after.

**For Resources** see page 108.









### What they did...

**LEFT:** Geoff built living room shelves from various sizes of pine boards, sanded the edges, and stained them. Metal rods fitted into the shelves and wall studs hold all in place. The couple bought fabric to re-cover the tufted thrift-store chair but paid to have it reupholstered. Geoff finished the piece with stain.

**ABOVE:** To panel a living room accent wall on the cheap, the couple cut  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch plywood sheets into squares then coated them with polyurethane. Geoff rotated the grain on every other square to add visual emphasis and secured them to the wall with screws.





"We saved money by doing  
our own demo, installing the  
cabinets and flooring,  
and painting ourselves."

GEOFF WOOD HOMEOWNER





### What they did...

LEFT: To brighten the kitchen, Regan searched *fabric.com* for the perfect lemon-accented swatch. She cut the material to fit an IKEA roller shade, then glued it in place for a custom window covering. Geoff installed the kitchen's cork flooring and IKEA cabinetry himself to save money. ABOVE: The space is small, but it houses Regan's office and the kids' art supplies—a tight fit that they've reconfigured four times. "Don't be afraid to experiment," she says. "Once you land on something that works for you functionally and aesthetically, it feels like an achievement." Turquoise spray paint revives a set of bland desk organizers.





"Over the years, we put trim in every room, changed every light fixture, and painted every wall—sometimes more than once!"

REGAN WOOD HOMEOWNER

### What they did...

ABOVE: To beautify the rafters providing structural support, Geoff built wraps made of lightly stained, high-grade pine. Each wrap is made of three planks he assembled on the floor. Geoff recessed the bottom piece to add dimension. He slid each wrap over a rafter and used countersunk screws to secure them. For the walls, the couple chose a calm gray—a color that will age well. Adding changeable details like the pop of tangerine paint on an overhanging eave and lime accents throughout makes it easy to freshen the look without much effort. The artwork above the platform bed is charcoal on canvas, a gift to the couple.





# 5 DIY Ideas to Steal

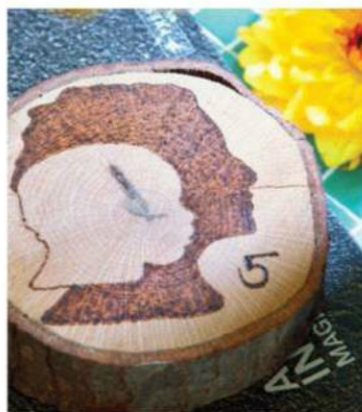
THE WOOD FAMILY'S VINTAGE-MEETS-MODERN STYLE MAKES USE OF LOTS OF LIGHT, LOVELY COLOR, AND CAREFULLY CURATED DETAILS. THESE PIECES WOULD BE WELCOME IN THEIR HOME AND YOURS.

words **SARA PEREZ**

# 1

## Lighten up

In Regan and Geoff Wood's office, crisp white, soothing spa blue, and happy turquoise tones get a boost from a few shots of bright primary yellow. Illuminate your own work space with a dose of sunshine by adding this bold yellow lamp. \$79; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com)



## 2. With the grain

Regan handcrafted this sweet silhouette art of herself and son Gibson as an anniversary gift for Geoff. Use paint or a wood-burning tool to make your own by tracing personal silhouettes onto a wood slice.

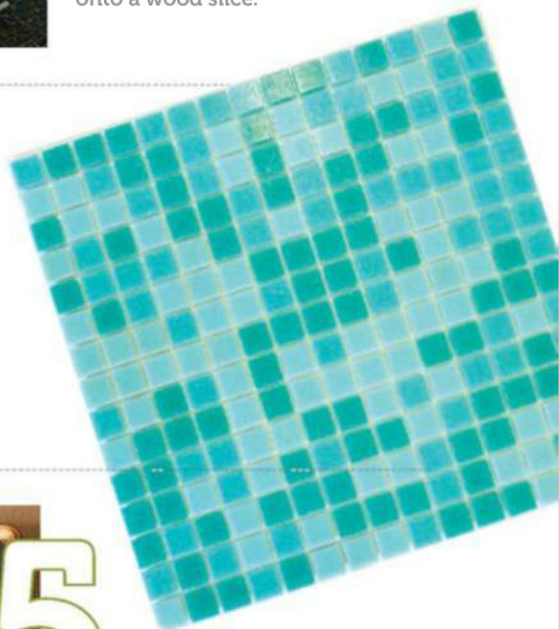


## 4. Fan the flame

Nothing could be better than gifting (or receiving!) this customized candleholder with you and your sweetie's initials carved in a heart on a white birch log. \$24; [urbanplusforest.etsy.com](http://urbanplusforest.etsy.com)

## 3. Hip to be square

Pre-arranged tiles in the perfect ocean-inspired palette make tiling a basic table an easy afternoon project. \$5.95 for a 1.15-square-foot sheet; [modwalls.com](http://modwalls.com)



# 5

## Photo finish

Handmade and wood-burned by Los Angelino Allan Chaykin, this photo of downtown LA is just the right addition of hip for your home. This print measures 9½x6¾ inches, but the artist will create custom sizes of many of his prints. \$25; [slothart.etsy.com](http://slothart.etsy.com)





# above the fold

Modern interpretations of the traditional Japanese art of origami  
add clean, graceful lines to these home projects.

projects **KATIE LEPORTE** | photographs **ADAM ALBRIGHT** | how-to photographs **KARLA CONRAD** | words **JENNIFER WILSON**



## What we did...

THIS PHOTO: The spare details of this entryway borrow from the centuries-old Japanese art of origami, the folding of a sheet of paper into an intricate sculpture. Delicate windmill folds attached to matching sheets of paper serve as wall art. Handcrafted vase wraps ensconce simple blooms. Even the geometric hall table, an easy do-it-yourself project (see *page 56*), was inspired by this ancient art.



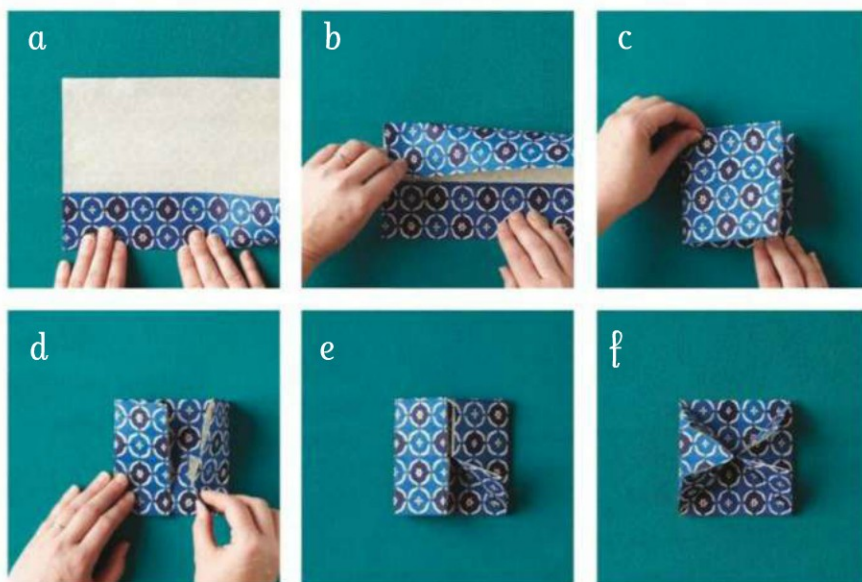
Download the cutting instructions for this interlocking table base.  
[BHG.com/DIYOrigamiTable](http://BHG.com/DIYOrigamiTable)





### What we did...

LEFT: Create the base of this table from painted medium-density fiberboard (MDF) hinged and slotted. The top is thick plexiglass. For more instructions and a building diagram, visit [BH.G.com/DIYOrigamiTable](http://BH.G.com/DIYOrigamiTable). BELOW LEFT: To assemble the three-dimensional flyaway grid wall art, cut nine 12-inch squares from 1/2-inch MDF. Apply decoupage medium to one side of a square and adhere 12x12-inch patterned origami paper. Smooth wrinkles. Repeat for each square. When dry, use spray adhesive to attach an origami windmill base (see how-to, below) in the same color and pattern to the center of one papered square. Repeat for additional squares. To vary the look, we also painted several MDF squares and left them blank.



## how to fold a windmill base

What you'll need:

— 12-inch-square origami paper

### step 1

Fold paper square in half to get a horizontal center line. Unfold.

### step 2

Fold bottom (a) and top (b) edges in to the center line.

### step 3

Fold in half to get a vertical center line (c). Unfold. Fold side edges in to the center line (d).

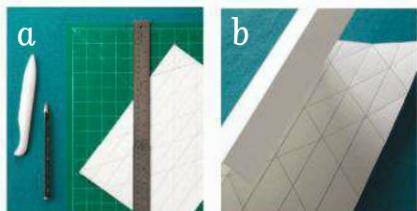
### step 4

Fold the lower right front point on the diagonal (e).

### step 5

Repeat with other three points for dimensional triangular flaps.





## how to make a vase wrap

What you'll need:

- Straightedge or ruler
- 2-ply vellum-finish paper (We used Strathmore Bristol paper.)
- Bone folder
- Cutting mat

### step 1

Use a straightedge and pencil to mark on the paper vertical lines spaced 1 inch apart.

### step 2

Mark a straight diagonal line from corner to corner, both ways, so that in addition to your vertical lines, you have a large "X." Make additional diagonal lines spaced  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches apart (a).

### step 3

Using a bone folder, score the vertical lines. Make valley folds at the vertical lines (b). A valley fold is formed by folding the sides of the paper upward, so that each fold line creates a V-shape valley.

### step 4

Score the diagonal lines and make mountain folds. A mountain fold is created by folding the sides downward.

### step 5

Wrap the paper around a glass jar, *this photo*, and attach with glue at the seam in the back. To vary the look, experiment with the spacing between mountain and valley folds.



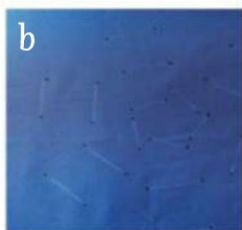
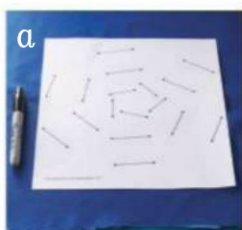
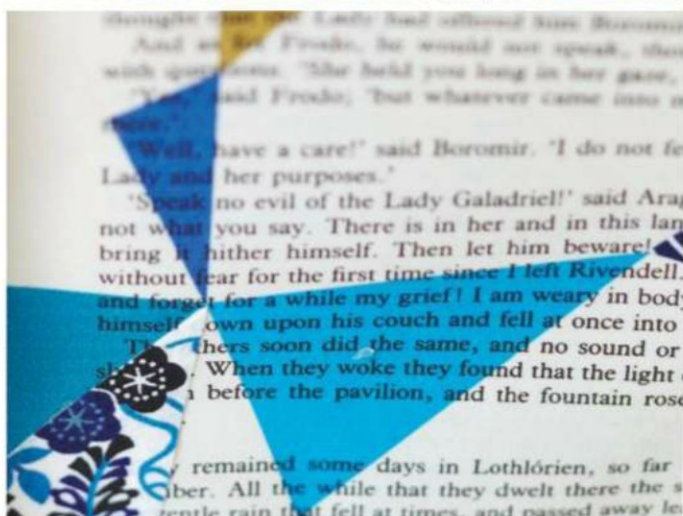






## What we did...

**OPPOSITE:** Gentle folds bring subtle dimension to this serene sitting area. The curtain, pillows, and dimensional wall art all incorporate folding techniques. To create the curtain, purchase two sheer window panels. Cut the first into equal-size squares. Lay the other panel on the floor. On the squares, pin opposite corners in the center of the square. Then lay the pinned pieces on the full panel in a pattern of your liking, overlapping the corners slightly. (We repeated an "X" shape to cover the lower portion of the sheer.) Hand-sew centers at the pins. For the pillows, we used shimmering shades of azure satin. See the instructions for the round pillow, *below*. For the 12x14-inch rectangular pillow, start with two 16x18-inch pieces of fabric (we used satin because its sheen emphasizes the folds). Use an iron on a low setting to press several random diagonal folds into one of the fabric pieces. Match the fabric pieces with wrong sides together and stitch with the creases sewn into the seams. Be sure to leave an opening to turn the pillow cover and fill. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Elevate literature from a book to the wall with this pretty origami project. Cut a piece of cream-color paper to fit inside a frame. This will serve as a mat. To add dimension, cut book pages into uniform squares, then employ the windmill base fold (see page 56). Affix the windmill shapes to the mat with spray adhesive. **RIGHT:** Thanks to our free pattern, geometric wall art is nearly as simple as pressing "start" on your printer. Download the triangle pattern at [BHG.com/DIYTriangles](http://BHG.com/DIYTriangles), then print it on a book page. (Be sure to adjust the printer guides to the size of the book page so it feeds correctly.) In addition to the printed pattern, cut a few patterned triangles from origami paper and affix them to the ends of the printed triangle pattern with spray adhesive. Let dry, mat, and frame.



## how to make a round origami pillow

What you'll need:

- ½ yard of blue satin fabric
- Pattern from [BHG.com/DIYOrigamiPillow](http://BHG.com/DIYOrigamiPillow)
- Needle
- Fabric pencil
- Thread

### step 1

Cut the fabric into two equal pieces. We used 12-inch-diameter circles. Download and print the pattern at [BHG.com/DIYOrigamiPillow](http://BHG.com/DIYOrigamiPillow). Place pattern on the front of the fabric and use a needle to poke holes through the dots on the pattern. Then draw lines with a fabric pencil on the wrong side of the fabric to link the holes (a).

### step 2

Working on the back of the fabric, start with a set of linked dots in the center, insert a needle and thread at one dot, and come up again at the other end (b).

### step 3

Pull thread so the dots touch, and tightly knot the thread (c). Do this for each pair of linked dots. Work from the center out. Pull together and knot all the pairs of connected dots. Once you've connected them all, turn the fabric over to see the three-dimensional front.

### step 4

Sew the dimensional piece to the back piece of fabric, right sides together. Then turn and fill.





Create your own origami crane art with our free downloadable guide. [BHG.com/DIYCrane](https://www.bhg.com/diy/crane)

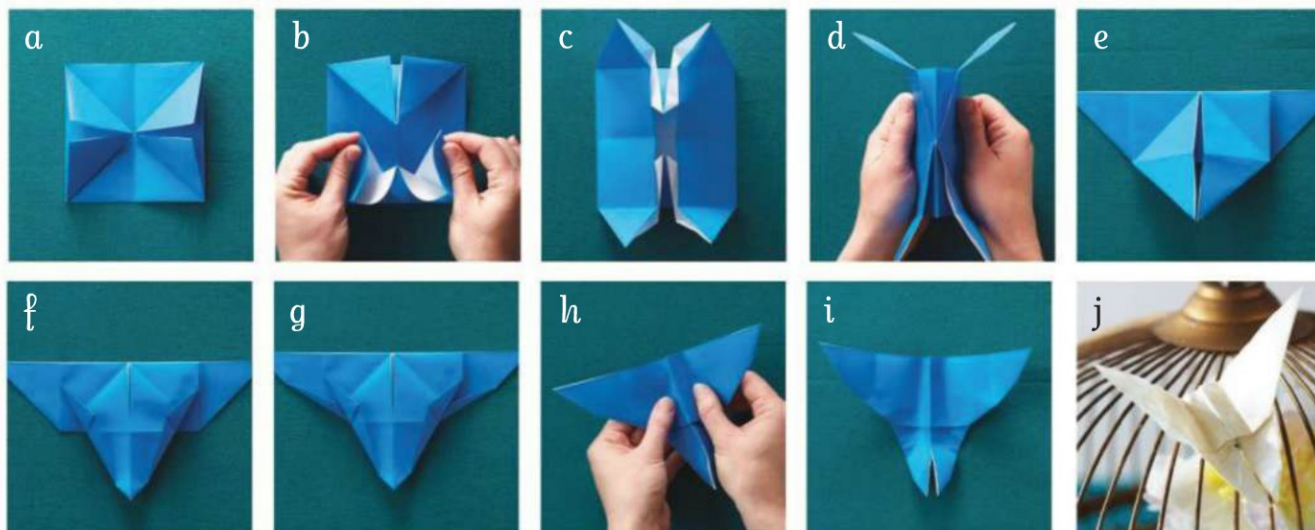






### What we did...

**OPPOSITE:** We set the table for a special origami evening, lit by the glow of a pendant light shade covered with sheets of extra-heavy paper folded into a windmill base then unfolded to create texture. Glue holds the papers in place. Folded butterflies ascend toward the light, some hanging from thread to create the illusion of flight. For the centerpiece, we clustered folded paper roses around a vintage birdcage housing stacked books and a small vase. (Find instructions for the flowers and butterflies *below* and *page 62*.) **LEFT:** To make this pretty paper place card, we folded heavy-weight paper in half, then glued on playful triangles.



## how to fold an origami butterfly

What you'll need:

— Origami paper or lightweight mulberry specialty paper

### step 1

Start with windmill base fold (a) (see *page 56*).

### step 2

Pull center point in toward center (b). Corners come up to create triangle shape points (b). Repeat on opposite end. Paper should lay flat.

### step 3

Mountain fold the windmill base (fold in half downward) (d). Lay it on its side. It should look like a trapezoid with the longest side on top.

### step 4

Fold two flaps downward to make a triangle shape (e).

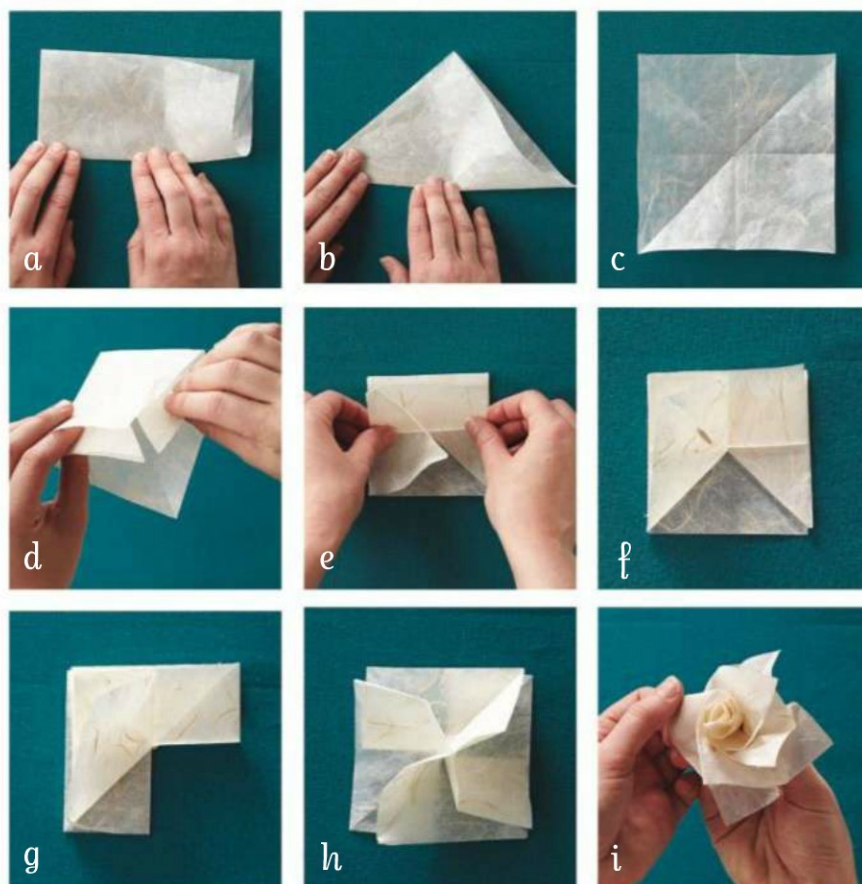
### step 5

Fold a small part of the top layer up. Repeat on the other side (f). Fold in a small section on the lower layer on each side (g).

### step 6

Flip paper so the folded flaps are facing down. Create the body of the butterfly with a center valley fold (h). Curl paper to shape wings as desired (i). Attach to birdcage centerpiece with wire (j).





## how to fold origami roses

What you'll need:

- Origami paper or mulberry specialty paper
- Bone folder

### step 1

Create a preliminary base. Fold square paper in half, both ways (a). Fold paper in half diagonally, both ways (b). Unfold (c). You should have an "X" pattern and a "+" pattern. Reinforce creases using a bone folder (or fingers). Fold on one of the diagonal creases to create a large triangle. Pinch the bottom of the triangle and the center of the fold. Side panels will billow out slightly. Press down on the sides to bring the corners together (d).

### step 2

Now you have a square shape. Turn the square so the diagonal crease line that is showing goes from the top left corner to the bottom right corner. You'll notice that the bottom right corner has four points and the top left corner is one point. Fold the top layer of the bottom right flap up (e). One point will automatically travel upward. Now, fold that point to the top left corner. Crease (f).

### step 3

Turn the square over and repeat flap folding on the other side. You should now have an upside down "L" shape (g). The top left corner shown in this step will become the inside center coil of the rose. Reinforce all fold lines. Hold paper with the open part of the "L" facing down. Now you'll be able to see all the folds on the top. Find the center point of the paper. There will be four areas around that point for your fingers to hold if you're using your thumb, pointer, index, and ring fingers.

### step 4

Continue holding on to the center point and turn the paper over in your hand so that you can see overlapping layers of paper (h). Cup your other hand over the layered side and begin to twist that center point clockwise. Twist as tightly as you can, creating the inner rose coil. Fold outer flaps down to create the rose shape (i). You can use a pencil to curl the outer rose edges downward, *left and above left*.

**For Resources** see page 108.





# 5 DIY Ideas to Steal

DESTINED TO DRESS UP YOUR WALLS, YOUR CORRESPONDENCE, AND EVEN A BASIC TEE, THESE ORIGAMI-INSPIRED PIECES OFFER SIMPLICITY AND ELEGANCE.

words **SARA PEREZ**



## 1 Perfectly polished

This bow necklace is just the right measure of sweet and sophisticated. Pair with a dress or a solid T-shirt. It's nothing less than lovely. Available in a variety of colors. From \$60; [homako.etsy.com](http://homako.etsy.com)

## 2. Pretty in paper

From the fantastical (a watercolor orchid) to the functional (a wallet), author Sok Song's *Crease and Fold* is packed with gorgeous photography and intuitive how-to diagrams. \$19.99; [randomhouse.com](http://randomhouse.com)

### CREASE + FOLD



Innovative Origami Projects  
Anyone Can Make



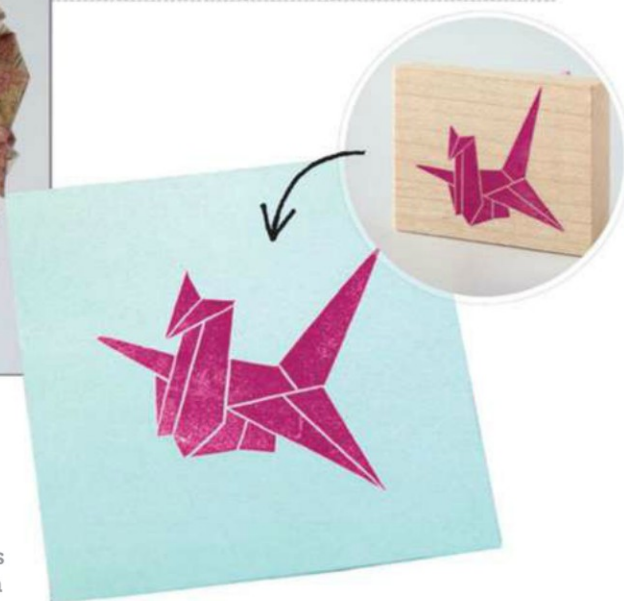
## 3 1,000 (wall)paper cranes

In Japanese folklore, the crane symbolizes long life, happiness, and good luck. So surely a whole wall of them in the sweetest colors brings happiness multiplied to an uninspired space. \$79 (2x9-foot panel); [dottirandsonur.com](http://dottirandsonur.com)



## 4 Fly away

Paper butterflies take flight when cut from and folded out of the background of this framed art piece. Available in white or covered with Pollack-inspired splashes of color. \$12.99; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com)



## 5. Stamp happy

Borrow the beauty of origami without the careful folding. This crane stamp would be perfect inked on place cards or party invites. \$8; [annawilhelm.etsy.com](http://annawilhelm.etsy.com)



# rock<sup>the</sup> block

Inspired by a traditional Indian art form, these modern block-print projects stamp out boredom with graphic color on plain fabrics and surfaces.

projects **JOHN LOECKE** | photographs **JAY WILDE** | words **JENNIFER WILSON**







### What we did...

This breakfast nook gets a touch of the exotic with a modern take on block printing, imprinting fabric with simple patterns and repeats using hand-cut blocks—or found objects—dipped in dye.









### What we did...

**OPPOSITE:** Raid your crafts basket for block-printing ideas. The textured repeat on these wooden vases comes from a scrap of foam wrapped with string. Dip the block in crafts paint, then give it a half-roll onto the surface. Repeat the pattern. "The object you print with needs to have dimension to it, so it leaves a clear imprint," designer John Loecke says. **LEFT:** Interesting shapes are found in a variety of household items. The funky curved repeat on this place setting comes courtesy of a potato masher. Start by dipping your print tool in fabric paint. (Blot on paper to remove excess.) Press the tool above the hem of a plain cloth napkin; repeat the pattern as desired. Use the same process on round cork trivets to turn them into coordinating chargers. **BELOW:** Add a dash of worldly charm to serving dishes by dotting them with the head of a bobby pin dabbed in paint.



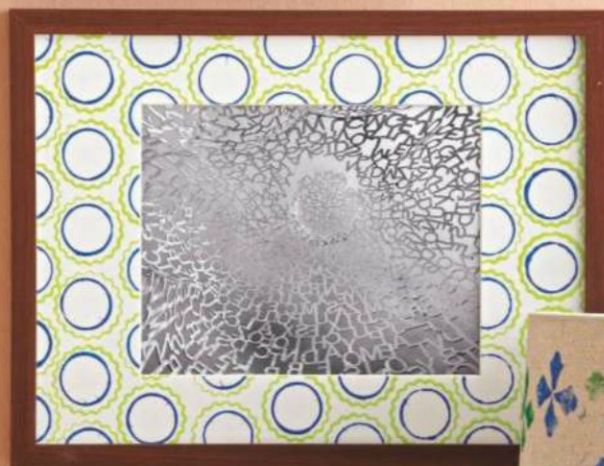
"Block print isn't a uniform consistency like a store-bought piece. It's handmade, and the variations are part of the beauty of the design."

JOHN LOECKE PROJECT DESIGNER



"Customize a pattern by layering shapes or using a different color with each block."

JOHN LOECKE PROJECT DESIGNER







### What we did...

**OPPOSITE and RIGHT:** Jazz up standard framing mats by stamping them with pastry cutters dipped in coordinating colors of block-print ink. We started with the larger design, and then added the smaller circle to the mat. **OPPOSITE, ABOVE, and ABOVE RIGHT:** You can create your own flexible block to cover curved surfaces, such as this lampshade and bowl. Trace a stencil design with a pencil onto a soft rubber printing block—the block's consistency is something like a pencil eraser. Carve away the material around the design with a linoleum cutter. Squeeze block-print ink into a nonporous tray, and roll a rubber brayer through the ink. Roll the brayer over your block print. Stamp it onto the shade or bowl. Repeat in another color if desired.







### What we did...

**OPPOSITE:** We imprinted this bedding set with folk art shapes that brighten the look. This simple project mixes motifs created with purchased stamps and a kitchen tool using fabric paint. Follow the directions on the paint packaging to be sure the paint sets, and then your bedding will be safe to launder regularly. **LEFT:** Create the ring shape with a kitchen whisk. **BELOW LEFT:** The accent pillow uses the whisk pattern, as well as a purchased floral stamp. Roll the paint onto the stamp with a brayer or paintbrush, and stamp where desired. **BELOW:** Mix two purchased stamps in coordinating colors to create a pretty, uniform pattern.

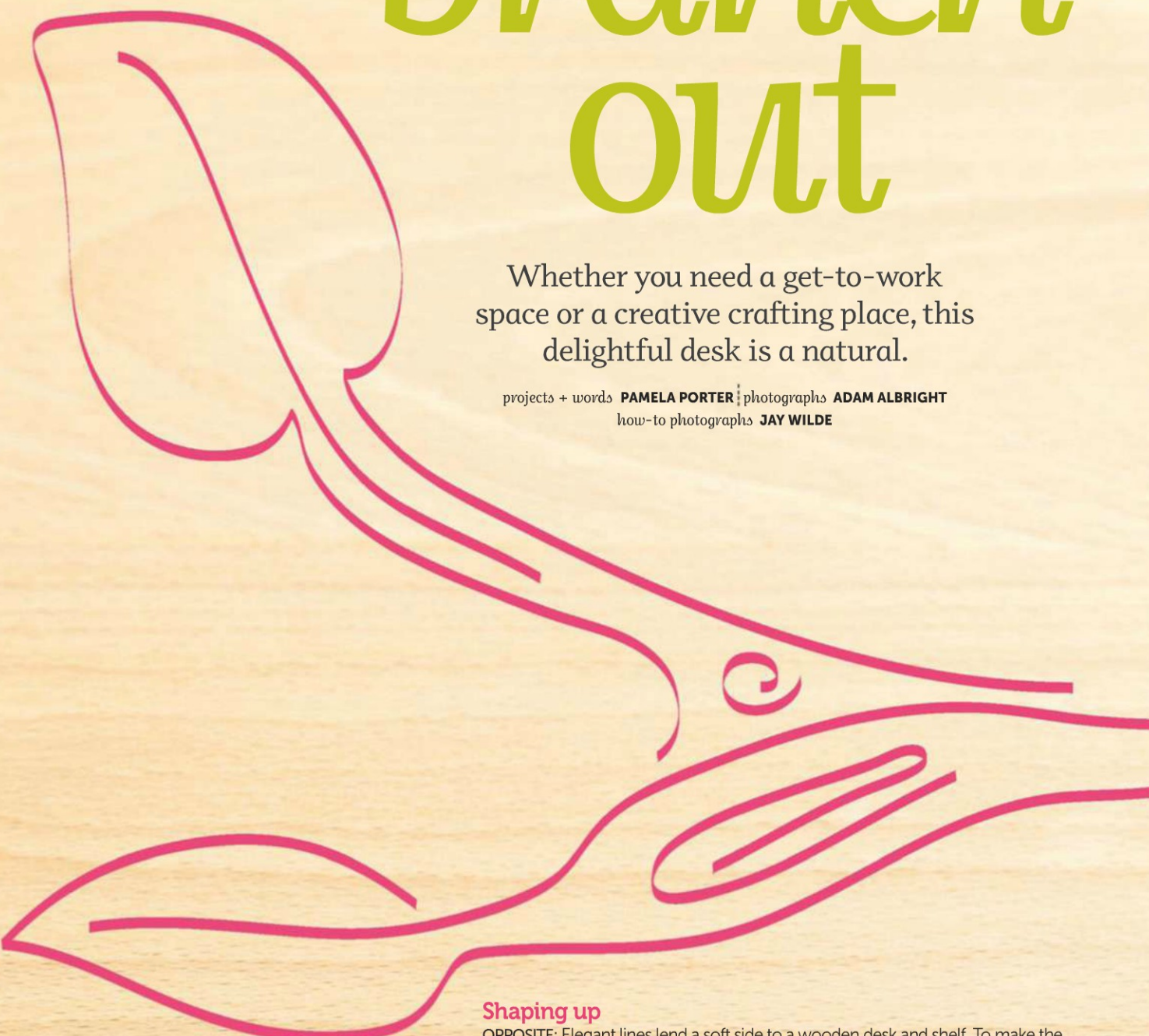
**For Resources** see page 108.











# branch out

Whether you need a get-to-work space or a creative crafting place, this delightful desk is a natural.

projects + words **PAMELA PORTER** | photographs **ADAM ALBRIGHT**  
how-to photographs **JAY WILDE**

## Shaping up

**OPPOSITE:** Elegant lines lend a soft side to a wooden desk and shelf. To make the desk, cut two 2x4-foot panels and four leg pieces (visit [BHG.com/DIYDeskLeg](http://BHG.com/DIYDeskLeg) for the pattern) from maple plywood. We cut a removable panel for a laptop and two pencil cup holes from the top piece, then secured all pieces together with wood glue and finish nails, sandwiching birch logs and two support pieces between the top and bottom. The wood is finished with clear varnish, and the top flaunts a pretty wallpaper. For more desk-building tips, see page 76.





Download the pattern  
for these desk legs.  
[BHG.com/DIYDeskLeg](http://bhg.com/DIYDeskLeg)



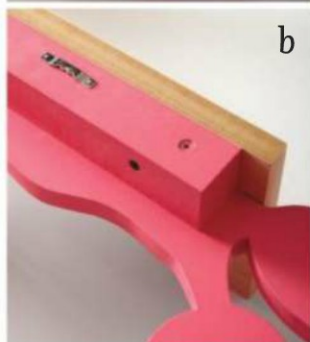
## Shelf life

THIS PHOTO: Flaunting both form and function, this branch shelf is sure to grow on you. Use our pattern at [BHG.com/DIYBranchShelf](http://BHG.com/DIYBranchShelf) or design a motif that suits your space. OPPOSITE LEFT: To keep pencil cups in the desk secure, use a hole saw to drill holes in the top panel. Insert glasses and fill with your favorite creative tools. Use a tapered glass that won't fall through the hole. OPPOSITE RIGHT: A coat of primer and paint refreshed this old metal desk lamp nicely. OPPOSITE MIDDLE: Magnetic primer turns an entire wall into a versatile memo board. Follow directions carefully, stirring the primer regularly and applying more coats than recommended (we used seven coats). Top with one coat of your favorite wall color. Use strong magnets for best results. To make our magnets, we used nature-theme wood shapes from the scrapbook section of a crafts store. We traced the shape on scrapbook paper, glued it to the wood, then topped with paper glaze. On the back we glued a rare earth magnet.



Download the pattern for this branch wall shelf. [BHG.com/DIYBranchShelf](http://BHG.com/DIYBranchShelf)





a

## how to make a branch shelf

What you'll need:

- Pattern from [BHG.com/DIYBranchShelf](http://BHG.com/DIYBranchShelf)
- Medium-density fiberboard (MDF)
- Jigsaw
- Coping saw
- Sandpaper and tack cloth
- 2x2 boards
- Drill, drill bits, and screws
- Primer, paint, and paintbrush
- Paint marker
- 1x6-inch maple board
- Clear varnish
- Picture hangers

b

### step 1

Enlarge the pattern to desired size. Use software to tile the pattern or make several overlapping photocopies and tile them manually. Trace pattern on MDF, then use a jigsaw to cut out the shape and a coping saw

for detailed areas. Sand edges and wipe with a tack cloth.

### step 2

Cut lengths of 2x2 boards to fit the back of each arm and screw to secure in place. These boards block the branch out from the wall to give it more dimension and to support the maple shelves. Prime and paint the branch. When dry, use a paint marker to draw wood-grain and leaf details on the front (a).

### step 3

Cut three shelves from 1x6-inch maple board to fit on top of each arm of the branch. Sand edges and wipe with a tack cloth. Varnish each shelf and let dry. Screw shelves to blocking boards behind the MDF branch. Secure two or three picture hangers to the blocking boards to hang (b).





### Custom creations

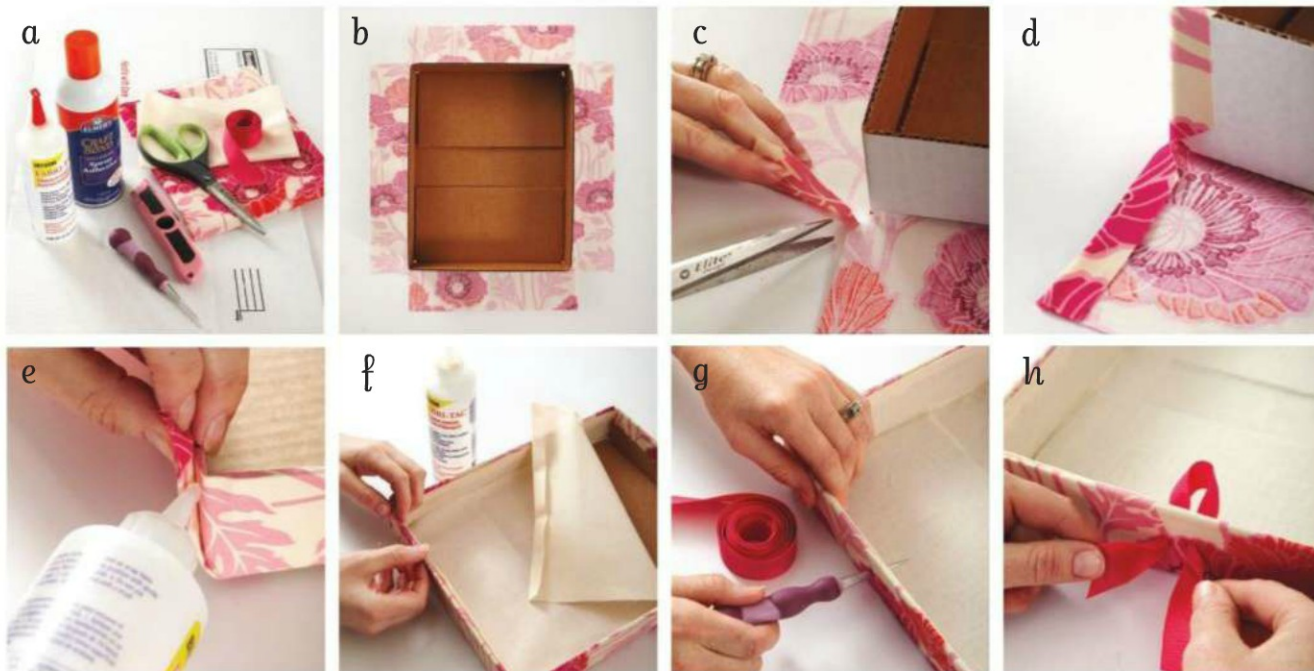
**ABOVE LEFT:** For the desk legs, use the pattern at [BHG.com/DIYDeskLeg](http://BHG.com/DIYDeskLeg) to cut four pieces from MDF. Cut  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch from the long straight side of two of the four pieces. Position the long side of one of the cut pieces along the long side of a full-width piece to create one 90-degree corner leg. Secure using wood glue and finish nails, then repeat to create a second leg. Use a hand planer to level two birch logs to fit between the top and bottom desk surfaces. We started with 3-inch-diameter logs, which we planed to about 2½ inches. Secure the logs by driving long screws from under the bottom surface up through the log and into the bottom of the top surface but not going through it. **LEFT:** A removable section gives you room to open a laptop while leaving it low enough for comfortable typing. When cutting an area out of the top surface, you can route an edge for the panel to rest on, or you can create an edge like we did using 1x2 boards. Lace-motif wallpaper and a charming laptop skin sweeten this creative desktop and make task-tackling more enjoyable. **TOP:** Because our desk has no back legs, we attached it to the wall using a basic cleat. Position a strip of wood to the wall under the desk, make sure the desk rests level on the strip, then screw the strip to the wall and to the underside of the desk. If you prefer a desk with more mobility, make and attach two more legs. **ABOVE:** Dots and damask fabrics soften this metal stool. We boxed our cushion and added piping to make it a nice, snug fit.





## Box it up

RIGHT: Why spend a fortune on pretty storage boxes when you can make your own? You can customize the size and design to fit your style and space.



## how to cover a box in fabric

### What you'll need:

- Cardboard box
- Utility knife
- Fabric for inside and outside of box
- Spray adhesive
- Fabric glue
- Awl
- Ribbon

### step 1

Gather materials (a). Assemble box if needed and cut to desired depth using a utility knife. Measure the outside box length and add two times the depth. Measure the outside box width and add two times the depth. To this measurement add 1 inch on all sides. Cut fabric to this size. Center box on wrong side of fabric and cut out corners from fabric (b), allowing  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch extra and making a notch in fabric at the inside corner (c).

### step 2

Spray underside of box with spray adhesive, then center on wrong side of fabric. Spray one of the four sides of fabric with spray adhesive and lift and press it to the side of the box. Wrap sides of fabric around each edge of the box. Turn under raw edge of fabric at adjacent end (notice notch) and secure with fabric glue (d). Pull fabric up at corner and secure to box using fabric glue (e). Repeat on all sides and corners. Wrap extra fabric over top edges of box and secure to the inside of the box using fabric glue.

### step 3

For the lining fabric, cover the two long sides inside the box by cutting two pieces that measure the depth of the box plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch by the length of the box. Fold over  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch

and press. Position the pressed end along the inside top of one side of the box and secure with fabric glue. Repeat on the opposite side. To cover the remaining inside surfaces, cut a third piece of fabric that measures the inside width by the inside length plus two times the depth plus 1 inch. Press under  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch on each end. Position one end along the inside top of one side of the box and secure with fabric glue (f). Spray bottom of box with spray adhesive and secure fabric along the bottom, then up opposite side, securing pressed end with fabric glue at the box's top edge.

### step 4

On the front of the box, use an awl to punch two holes near the center (g). Thread a length of ribbon through the holes (h) and knot at the front.

For Resources see page 108.



# fresh PERSPECTIVE

A basic living room tips the style scale thanks to digestible doses of today's hippest trends: geometrics, notched-up pastels, and tiny touches of gold.

projects **KATIE LEPORTE** | photographs **ADAM ALBRIGHT** | words **BETHANY KOHOUTEK**

## What we did...

**OPPOSITE:** The easiest of do-it-yourself upgrades usher a basic room into the present. When projects are united by a palette of pastels with an edge—aloe-tinged blues, pinks that tip toward coral, and splashes of cerulean—the space radiates fresh personality. **THIS PHOTO:** To make art with graphic appeal, cut triangles from scrapbook papers. Affix them to an artist's canvas with decoupage medium. Use painter's tape to form triangular sections that complement your paper shapes. Paint or gold-leaf inside the taped sections, then remove the tape. We carried the design onto the wall using the same techniques.



Video! See our expert tips for gold-leafing.  
[BHG.com/DIYGGoldLeaf](http://BHG.com/DIYGGoldLeaf)





Special thanks to:  
Lee Industries ([leeindustries.com](http://leeindustries.com))



## What we did...

**RIGHT:** You can't beat sweet wall art for less than the cost of a pedi. Download and print our design at [BHG.com/DIYTriangleArt](http://BHG.com/DIYTriangleArt). Glue a magnet to the front of a framed wood plaque from a crafts store, then stick a metal clip to the magnet to hold the artwork.

**BELOW:** To craft this blooming pillow, cut 1½-inch oval shapes from white felt. Arrange the petals in concentric layers on a pillow cover, then hand-stitch the petals in place. From shades of pink and gold wool, fashion tiny felted balls using a 32-gauge felting needle and foam pad work surface: Pull off a 1-inch clump of wool, roll it between your palms, then pierce it with the needle repeatedly to attain a tight shape. Hot-glue the balls to the flower. **BELOW RIGHT:** Plain curtain panels require no more than stitched-on triangles in various hues of satin to become Pinterest-worthy projects. Sew the shapes in a free-flowing pattern. **OPPOSITE:** For the felt flower pillow, cut 1½-inch ovals from blue felt. Pinch and hot-glue one end, creating dimension. Hot-glue the petals to the front of your pillow cover, then add a felt ball center using the technique described above. Hand-stitch stems in gold embroidery floss. Mimic the trendy look of ikat by using permanent marker (we used hot pink) to draw a design onto a solid-color pillow cover.



Download this wall art for free.  
[BHG.com/DIYTriangleArt](http://BHG.com/DIYTriangleArt)









## What we did...

**RIGHT:** The smallest hits of shimmer amplify the shine factor in this space. Coat a votive holder with metallic spray paint. **BELOW:** Even subtle accents get a lift thanks to a little paint. (These coasters also make a great gift.) Cut 4x4-inch squares from thin cork. Cut a simple herringbone pattern from stencil acetate. Press the stencil onto a cork square, and apply acrylic paint. **BELOW MIDDLE:** To boost style underfoot without dropping hundreds on an area rug, update an inexpensive sisal version. Use green painter's tape and a straightedge or yardstick to create clean outlines. We chose an improvised chevron pattern. When you're happy with your design, use a paintbrush or foam roller to apply interior latex paint, one color at a time. **BELOW FAR RIGHT:** A storage-savvy coffee table is born of inexpensive retail pieces. We cut the legs of an IKEA Lack side table to about 6 inches, assembled the side table, then screwed the bottom of the legs into the top of an IKEA Lack coffee table. Colorful casters enable mobility. **OPPOSITE:** A coat of latex paint added to the inside of a glass vase, followed by a scale pattern drawn on the outside with a paint pen, takes a vase from plain to pretty.

For Resources see page 108.











# roll with it

Wallpaper grows up—and gets groovy. Use today's prettiest papers to highlight walls and create bold accents.

projects **CHRISTIANA COOP** | photographs **JAMES CARRIERE** | words **BETHANY KOHOUTEK**

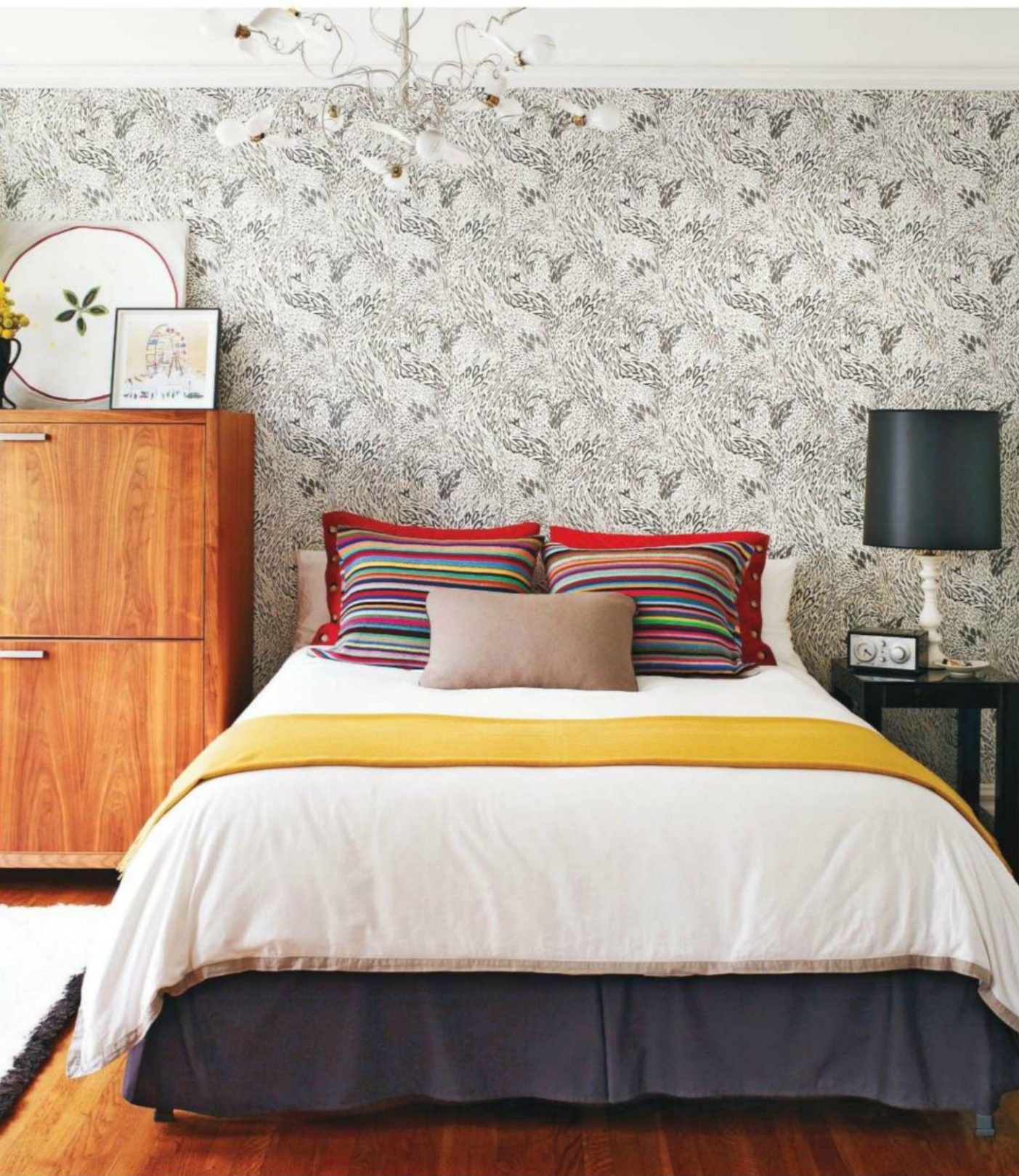


### Easy art

Resuscitate wallpaper scraps by employing them as wall art. For a framed piece, cut foam-core board to fit inside the frame. Use spray adhesive to attach the wallpaper to the foam-core board, then simply insert the board into the frame. Hang it or prop it against the wall for casual appeal. Or skip a frame. Instead, cut a piece of wallpaper to overlap all sides of an artist's canvas. Mount the wallpaper to the canvas with spray adhesive, folding the edges around to the back of the canvas and securing. Let it dry, then hang on the wall, display on an easel, or prop against a wall.







### Dreamy drama

Bedroom decor is a perfect stage on which to let your personality play. Wallpapering one accent wall is a fast and affordable way to inject color and pattern without overwhelming the room. Project designer Christiana Coop used the classic wallpapering method to apply this paper, but you could select a peel-and-stick product. See "How to Wallpaper a Wall," *opposite*.





### A grand entrance

Wallpaper is a standout way to define a space that lacks significant architectural borders, such as this entryway. Pretty patterned paper and simple coat hooks elevate this long, skinny space from underused hallway to functional entry point. See "How to Wallpaper a Wall," *right*, for application instructions, or visit [BHG.com/DIYWallpaperVideo](http://BHG.com/DIYWallpaperVideo) to see the process in action.

## how to wallpaper a wall

What you'll need:

- Level
- Wallpaper
- Measuring tape
- Wallpaper adhesive
- Paint roller brush
- Wallpaper smoothing tool
- Cloth
- Straightedge
- Utility or crafts knife
- Sponge
- Bucket

**step 1** Clean the wall. Make sure the surface is dry before continuing.

**step 2** Use a level to draw a straight vertical line the height of the wall in an inconspicuous spot. This is where you'll align your first strip of wallpaper.

**step 3** Cut a strip of wallpaper that is 6 inches longer than the height of the wall to allow a 3-inch overhang at the top and bottom.

**step 4** Apply adhesive lightly to the back of the wallpaper using a roller, then "book" (fold pasted sides together) for five to eight minutes to let the paste sink in and the paper expand and uncurl before applying it to the wall.

**step 5** Line up the first strip with the pencil line, and use a wallpaper smoothing tool to gently work the paper onto the wall. Work from the top and middle of the strip, moving down and out as you go. Smooth any excess adhesive from behind the paper, wiping it away from the edges with a damp cloth. This will prevent bubbles and movement as the adhesive dries.

**step 6** Continue hanging strips in the same manner. Before you cut each strip, match the pattern with the previous strip (called the pattern repeat). Match the pattern on the wall at eye level, and butt the seams tightly against each other without overlapping.

**step 7** When your wall is covered, trim excess paper with a straightedge and a utility or crafts knife with a sharp blade.

**step 8** Use a clean, damp sponge to remove adhesive from the surface. Empty your bucket and repeat with clean warm water.





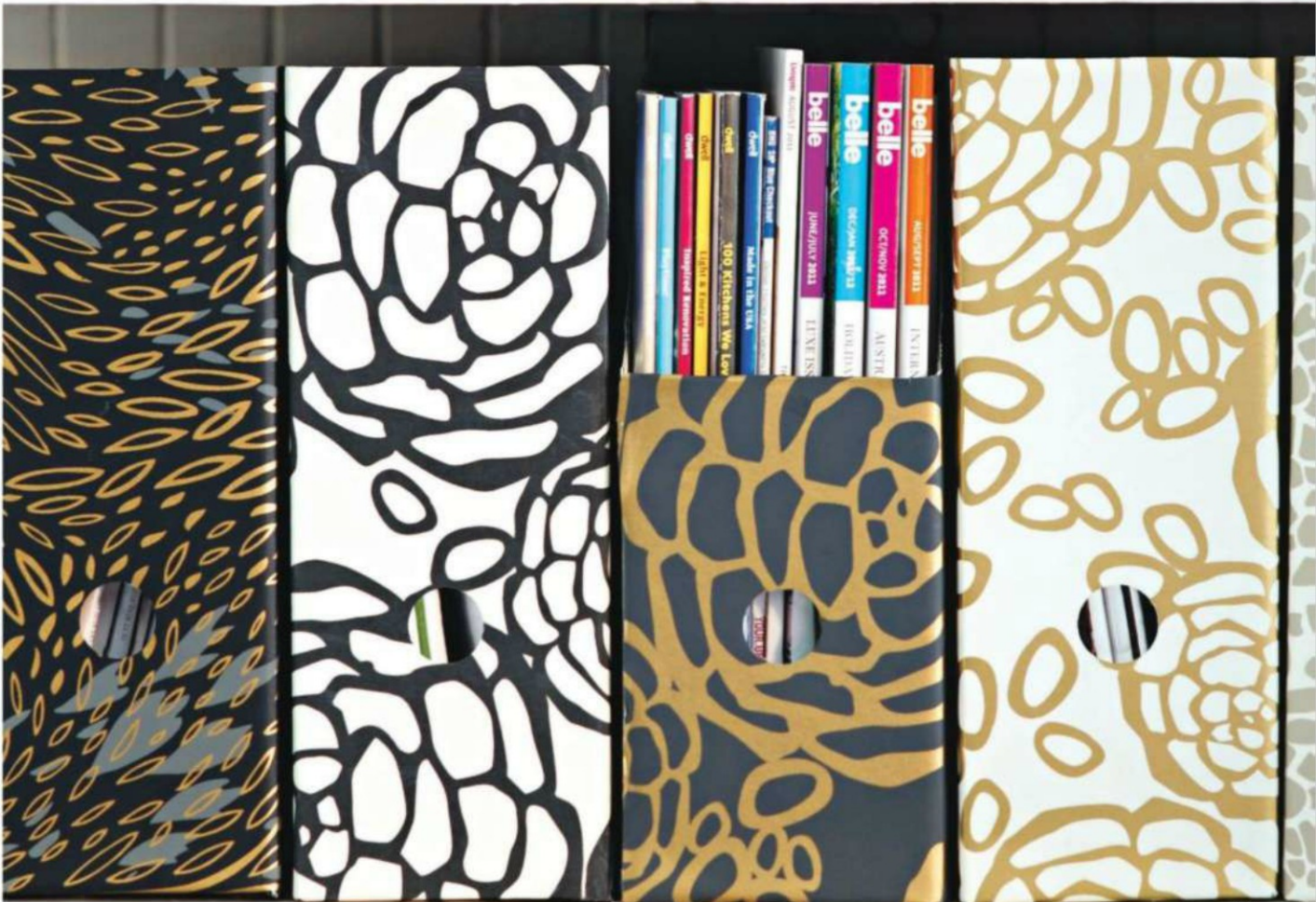
### Screen test

Create an easy screen to mask your fireplace—or any space—when it's not in use. This bold geometric print pops in front of the white fireplace and mantel. Here's how to make it: Cut four pieces of ½-inch-thick particleboard to your desired size. (The screen's size depends on what you want it to cover. This fireplace is 32 inches wide; the screen is made from four 12x36-inch boards, which came precut from a home improvement store). Use interior latex paint to coat the boards in a color that complements your wallpaper (here, black). Cut strips of wallpaper 2 inches wider and longer than the particleboard. Apply a light layer of spray adhesive to one side of the board and to the back of the wallpaper. Press the adhesive side of the paper onto the adhesive side of the board. Start at the top middle and work your way down, smoothing air bubbles as you go. Wrap the excess around to the back and secure. Repeat for the other boards. Let the boards dry. Use superglue to affix small hinges to connect the boards on the painted side. Move the screen before you start a fire; this screen is for decorative purposes only.



## Store more

If you love to stash fave mags for repeat reading but hate the messy piles that gobble up surface area, tuck them away in stylishly appointed storage caddies, *below*. Purchase plain cardboard magazine caddies for a few dollars. Measure and cut wallpaper to match the height and perimeter of the caddy, allowing for 1 inch of overlap. Apply spray adhesive to the caddy, then simply wrap the wallpaper around the caddy, using dots of white glue to secure the ends. Use a crafts knife to trim the angled sides and to cut out any holes. Create a cohesive grouping by choosing several patterns in the same palette.





### Get centered

Craft a centerpiece in an afternoon. You can add pattern to plain wood or glass vases by wrapping them in wallpaper. Measure your container's dimensions; adding an inch to the circumference for overlap, cut the paper to fit and affix with spray adhesive. If the vase is glass, add water and flowers. If it's wood, set the blooms inside a jar or cup before placing them in the vase.





### Fold 'em

Buffer an awkward corner, create a private nook, or add vertical interest to a room with a large-scale folding screen. To make it, follow the instructions described in "Screen Test," *page 88*, except use  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch-thick particleboard and don't wrap paper around the edges. Christiana recommends limiting each particleboard panel to the width of your wallpaper to avoid having to match the pattern and trim the edges. Use screws to affix the hinges to the back of each panel.

For Resources see *page 108*.









# making it work

With an eye for fabulous, a jewelry designer finds furnishings she loves—or commissions them from her fabricator husband—and lets the rest fall into place.

photographs **JAY WILDE** | words **KATE GIBSON**



## What they did...

**LEFT:** To brighten a living room with little natural light, homeowners Sena and Dan Shebaro had to get creative. "We were having Thanksgiving dinner with a large table of people," Sena says. "It was way too dark, so we added a light fixture." A piece of metal conduit attached to an upside-down lampshade resulted in a space full of light and a successful party. **OPPOSITE:** While collecting glass bottles was once just a hobby for Sena, colorful glass has now taken over mantels and tables, establishing itself as a design staple in the home.

Sena Shebaro purchased the 1920s home she shares with her husband, Dan, based on a vision she had of her grandmother's round table sitting in the dining room. "I know it sounds crazy," she says, "but I

could just picture that table sitting there underneath a chandelier." She has fond childhood memories of having birthday cake at the table, which she has since inherited from her grandmother.

While many people struggle to pin down a personal aesthetic, Sena is confident in her style: The Des Moines-based jewelry designer knows what she loves when she sees it.

"This house had good bones; it was in really good shape," Sena says. "My husband

and I could do the work ourselves." And work they did. Amid repainting rooms, removing and replacing trim, and updating windows, they created a home full of color and light.

Though Sena has scored many furniture and decor pieces recently at flea markets and antiques stores, several items are treasures that have been in her possession for years. "The end table in the dining room was my first big splurge," she says. "I was 20 years old and spent \$185 on it." At the time, she didn't

know where she was going to place it, but now it is one of her most beloved purchases.

Before moving in, Sena knew exactly how she wanted to decorate every room in their house, except the master bedroom. "I had no clue what I was going to do with it," she says. "I waited three years before I even painted it." Now the bedroom, full of eclectic colors and prints, is her favorite room, the place in which she feels most at home. As a self-proclaimed clothes and shoes enthusiast, Sena displays





### What they did...

**ABOVE:** Sena put this secondhand oak table to work as a practical kitchen island simply by screwing a caster to the bottom of each leg. "When you see a piece you like, you have to be willing to find ways to make it work in your home," she says. Seltzer bottles, also from a flea market, add vibrant colors amid the white cabinets. **RIGHT:** A lover of the color seafoam green, Sena has been collecting glass in this shade since she was young. Mixing dollar finds with high-end handblown glass makes her collection unique. **OPPOSITE:** Black frames mix with unframed canvases to fill the staircase wall with a gallerylike collage overlooking Sena's inspirational old table.

her high heels on a shoe rack Dan crafted for her. "I pick shoes like I pick anything else: I go for what I love," she says. "Dan says I need to cut back, but I joke that he'll just build another shelf."

Because Sena feels the decor is nearly all her doing, she does give Dan a space in the living room to showcase his motorcycle during the winter. "That bike is his baby, and he wanted to bring it in. I didn't mind at all,"

she says. "It is really pretty, and in fact, I think it looks quite nice in the room."

Most people would have a hard time justifying the storage of a motorcycle in their home, but for Sena, a bike can be just as pleasing as a bouquet of flowers. "The key to having a home you love is not overthinking things," she says. "If we love something enough, I know I'll find a place for it to work."

**For Resources** see page 108.









"If we love something enough, I know  
I'll find a place for it to work."

SENA SHEBARO HOMEOWNER







### What they did...

OPPOSITE: "My husband and I were digging through a junkyard, and we found two colorful pieces of enamel from an antique phone booth," Sena says. Five years later, Dan used those orange and green pieces to fabricate a media cabinet. ABOVE: Mixing an antiques store find with a crafts store purchase, Sena cobbled together the coffee table in the family room. She paired the antique table base with a precut glass sheet. ABOVE RIGHT: Sena often sits at a desk to sketch her jewelry designs, so she wanted to site her work space in a lively part of the house. Dan's motorcycle also garners attention here. "We clean it up and bring it inside for the winter," Sena says. "It's stylish and a great conversation piece." RIGHT: The artwork Sena showcases in her home includes her own creations; work by her sister, an art professor; and pieces from local art festivals. "I buy what catches my eye," she says.







### What they did...

**ABOVE:** When they moved in, the couple's bedroom had only one tiny window. Sena and Dan searched Craigslist until they found a bigger window in their price range. "When Dan installed the new window, I left town on purpose," Sena says.

"He was cutting a huge hole in the side of the house. But now it looks fabulous and we have tons of light." **RIGHT:** Sena took a sturdy, and economical, approach to hanging her curtains by creating a rod from metal conduit and an inexpensive metal bracket.

**OPPOSITE LEFT:** An old stool gets new life with a coat of paint and fresh diamond-print fabric. **OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT:** To show off his wife's favorite heels, Dan built a simple shoe rack from boards—painted in Sena's signature color, seafoam green—supported by metal piping on wheels.

**OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT:** An old medicine cabinet is a unique way to store clothing in a bedroom. Sena scored the piece at an antiques store for less than \$200. A self-proclaimed shopaholic, she can fit almost all of her sweaters in the cabinet.











### What they did...

LEFT: In a home with no designated entry space, Sena used small furniture to define a foyer. She purchased the desk in her early 20s, not sure what she would do with it. She fell in love with the distressed look and the knobby legs. A refurbished French style dining chair perfectly fits the area.

TOP: One touch Sena wanted to make to the home's exterior even more charming: a red door. "Apparently it means good luck," she says. ABOVE: Sena and Dan at home with their dog, Howie.



# 5 DIY Ideas to Steal

SENA'S STYLE IS ABOUT SHAPING THE UNEXPECTED SO IT FITS PERFECTLY IN ITS SURROUNDINGS. HERE'S HOW YOU CAN GET THE LOOK.



## 1

### Pillow power

Take a cue from Sena's sofa: A bright pillow energizes any living area. These textures and hues have a retro vibe. Available from CB2 in a variety of prints, colors, and shapes to assemble a perfectly imperfect collection. \$29.95; [cb2.com](http://cb2.com)



## 2. Industrial chic

A piece of metal piping and a simple bracket provide a fresh take on a basic curtain rod. With easy installation, you'll have hardware that is sturdy and inexpensive. Find similar brackets at Lowe's. \$4–\$10; [lowes.com](http://lowes.com)



## 4. Fit to be tied

A fabulous find at a local home decor shop, Wicker and the Works, this slipcover made of neckties fits over a rubber exercise ball (see page 93). Using it to put her feet up or as the perfect spot to sit while she slips on heels, Sena says this piece often floats around the house. \$50; [wickerandtheworks.com](http://wickerandtheworks.com)



## 3

### Style in a bottle

Blue glass bottles are beautiful as stand-alone pieces or grouped. Add interest by collecting pieces you see at flea markets while throwing in store-bought pieces like these from Pottery Barn. \$139–\$179; [potterybarn.com](http://potterybarn.com)



## 5. Artsy with Etsy

Mix-and-match prints come together to create beautiful wall art. Unify a variety of sizes, colors, and textures with simple black frames. \$10–\$18; [aldariart.etsy.com](http://aldariart.etsy.com), [orangetail.etsy.com](http://orangetail.etsy.com)





# brilliant burlap

It's inexpensive and widely available, and it has an inherently interesting texture. From fabrics store yardage to vintage feed sacks, burlap wraps furniture, pillows, art, and more in style.

projects + words **AMY PALANJIAN**  
photographs **KRITSADA**  
how-to photographs **DEAN SCHOEPPNER**

## Pillow talk

LEFT and OPPOSITE: Vintage feed sack pillow covers add texture to this sunny nook. Simply cut two pieces of burlap to 2 inches wider on all sides than the dimensions of a pillow insert. With right sides facing, sew together on all sides, leaving a 6-inch opening. Turn right side out, insert the pillow, then whipstitch the cover closed. For another look, use a strip of colorful fabric for part or one side of the pillow.



## It's a wrap

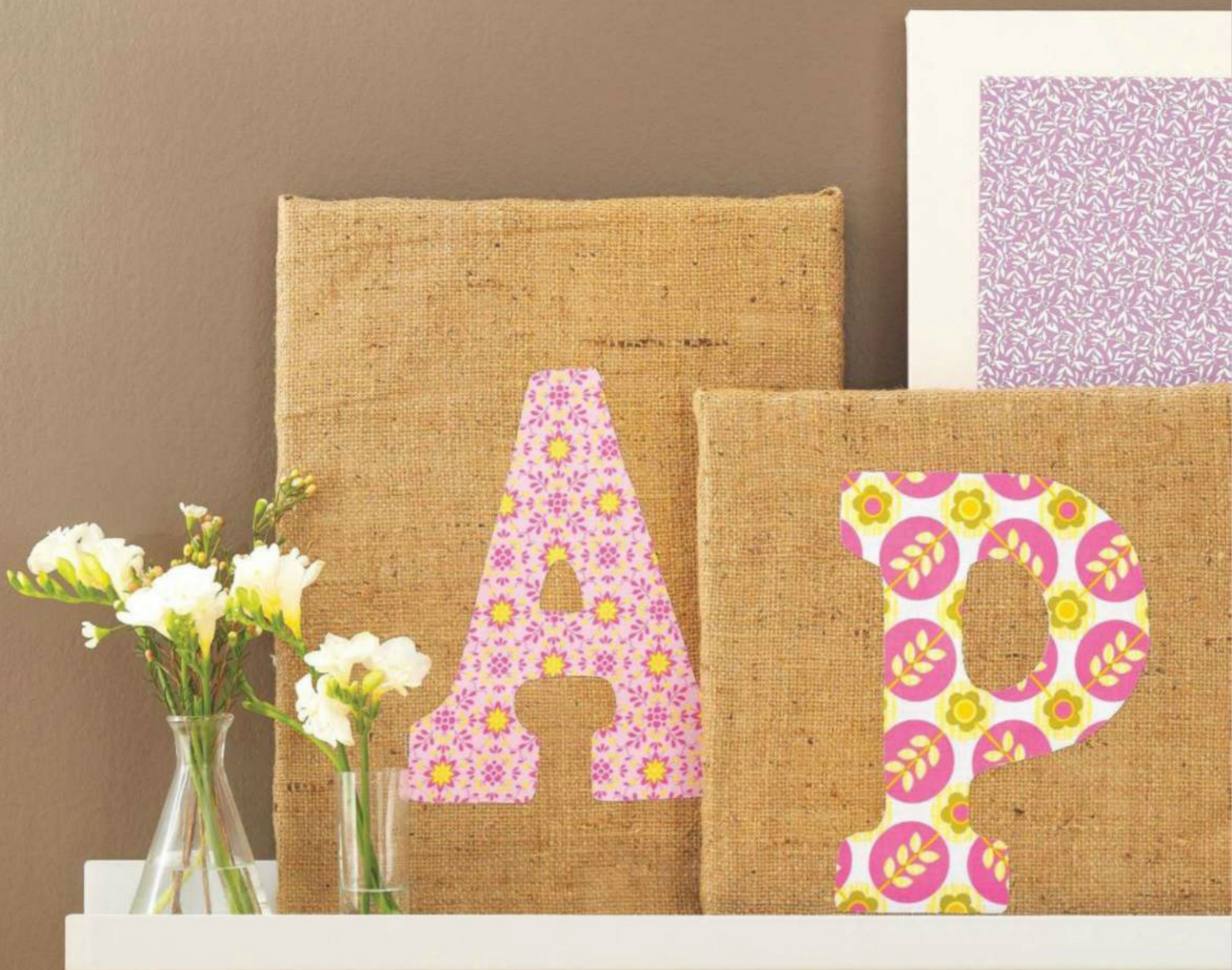
**THIS PHOTO:** A basic foam wreath base from a crafts store gets a rustic makeover when wrapped with burlap. Secure the end of a spool of burlap garland in the wreath with straight pins, then wrap to cover the wreath; secure with pins. To make each flower, cut six circles of burlap in the same size. Lay one flat, then fold another in half, then in half again and stitch to the base with the point toward the center. Repeat with two more circles to cover the base. Repeat again with two circles, stitching them on top of your original three. Secure to the wreath with a pin through the center.





## Initial investment

THIS PHOTO: Make these monogram art pieces for less than \$5 each. Cut a piece of burlap large enough to wrap around to the back of a painter's stretched canvas. Iron fusible adhesive to the back of a pretty piece of fabric. Draw a letter, or trace a wooden letter or stencil from the crafts store, onto the fabric. Cut out the letter, and iron it onto the burlap. Pull the burlap tight across the canvas, and staple the excess fabric to the back of the frame.



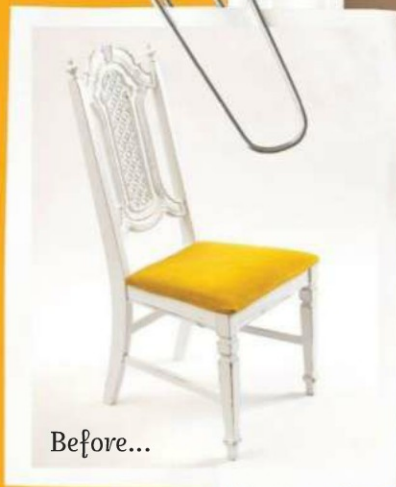


## Ready to run

THIS PHOTO: A length of light-color burlap becomes a modern table runner with a quick dip in a dye bath. Pick up enough burlap yardage from the fabrics store so that it hangs 1–2 feet off the ends of your table. Cut it lengthwise so that it's several inches narrower than the width of your table (you can trim after dyeing if needed). We used RIT fabric dye in fuchsia to dye one-third of the runner on each end. To create a slight ombré effect, we repeated the dye bath on one-sixth of the runner on each end to darken the color. Fringe if desired.







Before...

### Chair apparent

THIS PHOTO: Check thrift and antiques stores or neighborhood garage sales for a chair with a removable seat. Remove the seat and paint the chair frame as needed. Look for either new or vintage burlap to re-cover the seat. (See detailed instructions, *opposite*.)







## how to re-cover a chair seat

### What you'll need:

- Chair with removable seat
- Screwdriver
- Staple remover
- Upholstery foam (no more than 2 inches thick), optional
- Burlap (about  $\frac{3}{4}$  yard, depending on chair size)
- Yardstick or clear grid ruler
- Permanent marker
- Staple gun and staples

### step 1

Turn the chair upside down and remove the seat using a screwdriver. Set the screws aside.

### step 2

Carefully remove the old seat cover using a staple remover. If the seat foam is easily removable, remove it and cut a piece of new foam to the

same size and place it on top of the seat. If the original foam is in good condition or it is difficult to remove the original fabric, you can leave it all in place, as we did here, and simply cover over it.

### step 3

Place the seat and the foam, facing down, on the backside of your burlap. If your burlap has a design on it, make sure the front is positioned to create the desired final look, *above left*. Measure and mark a line on the burlap 2–3 inches bigger than the size of the seat base (a). You can always trim the burlap later, so err on the bigger side.

### step 4

Using fabric shears, cut along your marked line (b). TIP: Fabric shears typically work much better than regular

crafts scissors, which can snag or have difficulty cutting through thick burlap.

### step 5

Starting in the middle of one side, pull up the burlap and use a staple gun to secure it in place on the underside of the seat, sandwiching the foam between the burlap and the seat base. Repeat on the opposite side. Alternate sides until both are secure, with staples every inch or so, and the burlap is tight (c). Repeat on the remaining sides. Fold each corner as if you were wrapping a package and staple in place (d). Make sure to smooth any bumps before finishing each corner.

### step 6

Use screws to reattach the chair seat to the base.

For Resources see page 108.



# shopping guide

Find clickable links  
to all these sources  
in the digital edition  
of this issue.  
BHGSpecials.zinio.com

Here's where to find building materials, furnishings, and accessories shown in *Do It Yourself™* magazine. We cannot guarantee the availability of items or services.

## [P] Paint Color

Because of the magazine printing process, paint colors depicted on our pages might vary slightly from manufacturers' colors. Use paint color names or numbers, when provided, as a starting point. To get a color as it appears in the magazine, take the page to a paint retailer for matching.

## [T] To the Trade

Contact a design professional to find more information about this product or service.

## CAST AWAY

PAGES 10-17

For more information on resin crafting and for a good source of resin crafting products, visit the *Environmental Technology Inc.* website at [eti-usa.com](http://eti-usa.com). For more resin crafting supplies see [creative-wholesale.com](http://creative-wholesale.com).  
Molds for buttons and for rose on napkin ring found in the fondant section, metal flower embellishment for doorknob, metal craft ring for sun catcher—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; [joann.com](http://joann.com). Resin pieces, craft supplies, bulletin board and tacks—visit local crafts supply stores. Cabinet knob, mold-release spray, rubber molds, resin supplies, decorative paper for doorknob, soap mold for picture frame, acrylic paint for napkin ring, adhesive glaze for tabletop, Mod Podge—Michaels Stores, Inc.; [michaels.com](http://michaels.com). Machine screw, nut, washers for cabinet knob, concave doorknob, screw eyes for sun catcher, acrylic spray sealer for tabletop—Home Depot USA, Inc.; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com). Rubber ice cube

tray for sun catcher sold as a water bottle ice cube tray—HomeGoods; 800/614-4663; [homegoods.com](http://homegoods.com). Art paper for tabletop—Paper Source; 888/727-3711; [paper-source.com](http://paper-source.com). Resin mold for paperweight sold as a paint mixing cup—Dick Blick Art Materials; 800/828-4548; [dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com).

## BETWEEN THE LINES

PAGES 24-26

Solid gray rug under chair Sassy Sisal Fields with matching borders XN5013 in gray, floral-pattern rug at front Ginkgo Blossom hand-hooked XH1227, graphic-pattern rug at back Soho dhurrie rug XH8005 in gray—Shades of Light; 800/262-6612; [shadesoflight.com](http://shadesoflight.com). Chair Frankie armchair in Suzani, side table—Pier 1 Imports; 800/245-4595; [pier1.com](http://pier1.com). Wall paint Cityscape Gray #SW7067—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; 800/474-3794; [sherwin-williams.com](http://sherwin-williams.com) [P].

## STOW AWAY

PAGES 28-30

Page 28  
Ipe decking—East Teak; 800/338-5636 (East Coast); 800/537-3369 (West Coast); [eastteak.com](http://eastteak.com). Teak ready-to-assemble furniture—Arthur Lauer; 800/982-3880; [arthurlauer.com](http://arthurlauer.com). Green seat cushion fabric, orange round pillow fabric—Durallee Fabrics; 800/275-3872; [durallee.com](http://durallee.com). Green indoor-outdoor rug Diamond Sprout/White—Dash & Albert Rug Co.; 800/658-5035; [dashandalbert.com](http://dashandalbert.com).

## COOL TOOLS: A CUT ABOVE

PAGE 32

Sources for saws for DIY projects include:  
Black & Decker; 800/544-6986;

[blackanddecker.com](http://blackanddecker.com).  
Bosch; 800/267-2499; [boschtools.com](http://boschtools.com).  
Craftsman by Sears; 800/469-4663; [sears.com](http://sears.com).  
Porter-Cable; [portercable.com](http://portercable.com).  
Rockwell Tools; [rockwelltools.com](http://rockwelltools.com).  
Ryobi, Ltd.; 800/525-2579; [ryobitools.com](http://ryobitools.com).

## FAST KITCHEN FACELIFTS

PAGES 35-45

Pages 35-37  
All doors—CabinetNow.com; 877/688-9058; [cabinetnow.com](http://cabinetnow.com).  
Chalkboard paint for cat Bakery Green—Hudson Paint; 845/758-3229; [hudsonpaint.com](http://hudsonpaint.com). Brown chalkboard paint, crafts paint, wood burner for owl door—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; [joann.com](http://joann.com).  
Tile for door—Home Depot USA, Inc.; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com) (product line varies). Knob for owl door—Anthropologie; 800/309-2500; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com). Owl stencil—French-Knots; [french-knots.com](http://french-knots.com).  
Oil-base paint markers for floral door—Sharpie; [sharpie.com](http://sharpie.com). Glass knob, clear varnish—Home Depot USA, Inc.; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com).  
Pages 38-41  
Wood blocks, adhesive glaze for wood block knobs Mod Podge, gold and iridescent paint kits, paint for wood block knobs—Michaels Stores, Inc.; [michaels.com](http://michaels.com).  
Cabinets, countertop, polycrylic gloss, plastic sheet and cutting tool, PVC pipe, pipe strap, brackets, spacers, posts—Lowe's; 800/445-6937; [lowes.com](http://lowes.com).

## WOOD WORK

PAGES 46-53

Page 46  
Drapery fabric—Fabric.com; [fabric.com](http://fabric.com). Table—IKEA; United States; 888/434-4532; Canada; 866/866-4532; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). Towel on chair, tray, vase—West Elm; 888/922-4119; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com).

Pages 48-49

Sofa, drapery, white vases—IKEA; United States; 888/434-4532; Canada; 866/866-4532; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). White table lamp, gray rug—HomeGoods; 800/614-4663; [homegoods.com](http://homegoods.com). Shades for table lamps, rods for draperies, teal table lamp, arched floor lamp and shade, blue pillows—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; [target.com](http://target.com) (product line varies). Blue vase, yellow pillow—West Elm; 888/922-4119; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). Coffee table—Father and Son Antiques, Raleigh; 919/832-3030. Aqua planter and plant, succulents and planters—Lowe's; 800/445-6937; [lowes.com](http://lowes.com). Framed artwork—Geoff Wood Photography; [geoffwoodphotography.com](http://geoffwoodphotography.com). Pillow at desk chair—Pearl and Pioneer; [pearlandpioneer.etsy.com](http://pearlandpioneer.etsy.com). Wood paneling plywood purchased unfinished, finished with polyurethane—Lowe's; 800/445-6937; [lowes.com](http://lowes.com). Finish for chair at floor lamp—Minwax; 800/523-9299; [minwax.com](http://minwax.com). Wall paint Decorator White—Benjamin Moore; 888/236-6667; [benjaminmoore.com](http://benjaminmoore.com) [P].

Page 50

Shade fabric—Fabric.com; [fabric.com](http://fabric.com). Shade purchased without fabric—IKEA; United States; 888/434-4532; Canada; 866/866-4532; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). Light at window—West Elm; 866/428-6468; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com) (product line varies). Canisters Orla Kiely, white bowl with fruit, yellow vase—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; [target.com](http://target.com) (product line varies). Cork flooring—Lumber Liquidators; 800/476-0007; [lumberliquidators.com](http://lumberliquidators.com).  
Page 51  
Desk, shelf unit—IKEA; United States; 888/434-4532; Canada; 866/866-4532; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). Desk





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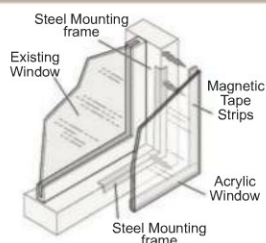
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**chair**—Habitat for Humanity ReStore; [habitat.org/restores](http://habitat.org/restores) for a location near you. **Sheer curtains** similar items available—Kmart; 800/866-0086; [kmart.com](http://kmart.com). **Desk accessories, green cube, rug**—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; [target.com](http://target.com) (product line varies). **Yellow lamp**—West Elm; 888/922-4119; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Wall paint** Alpine Valley #B58-3—Olympic; [olympic.com](http://olympic.com) [P].

Page 52

**Bedding, throw, lampshades, side table, lamps**—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; [target.com](http://target.com) (product line varies). **Bed**—IKEA; United States: 888/434-4532; Canada: 866/866-4532; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Painting**—homeowner's collection. **Wall paint** Gibraltar Gray D31-5#, Brass Mess #B13-5—Olympic; 800/441-9695; [olympic.com](http://olympic.com) [P]. **Ceiling paint** Du Jour #7002-6—The Valspar Corp.; 800/845-9061; [valspar.com](http://valspar.com) [P]. **Green pillows**—HomeGoods; 800/614-4663; [homegoods.com](http://homegoods.com).

## ABOVE THE FOLD

PAGES 54–63

**Sources for origami paper include:** Deerso; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). **Paper Jade;** [paperjade.com](http://paperjade.com). **Paper Mojo;** 877/668-9633; [papermojo.com](http://papermojo.com). **Sources for mulberry unryu paper include:** Dick Blick Art Materials; 800/828-4548; [dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com). **Mulberry Paper & More;** [mulberrypaperandmore.com](http://mulberrypaperandmore.com). **Sources for paper-folding tools and supplies include:** ArtSupply.Com; 800/937-4278; [artsupply.com](http://artsupply.com). **Hobby Lobby;** 800/323-9204; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com).

Pages 54–57

**Paper for vase wrap** 2-Ply Bristol vellum-finish paper—Strathmore Artist Papers; [strathmoreartist.com](http://strathmoreartist.com). **Board for table base** Ultrastock MDF, top coat Zinsser Bulls Eye 123 #182407, clear colorless acrylic sheet for tabletop—Home Depot USA, Inc.; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com). **Primer for table base**—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; 800/474-3794; [sherwin-williams.com](http://sherwin-williams.com) [P]. **Hinges** 1½×30-inch stainless-steel hinges—National Manufacturing; [natman.com](http://natman.com) for a retailer near you. **Papers for wall**

**art**—Paper Mojo; 877/668-9633; [papermojo.com](http://papermojo.com).

Page 60

**Stretched canvas for crane wall art**—Dick Blick Art Materials; 800/828-4548; [dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com). **Paints for crane wall art**—Golden Artist Colors; 800/959-6543; [goldenpaints.com](http://goldenpaints.com). **Glue for pendant lamp** Mod Podge—Plaid Enterprises, Inc.; 800/842-4197; [plaidonline.com](http://plaidonline.com).

## ROCK THE BLOCK

PAGES 64–71

**Sources for printing supplies, paint, and inks include:** Hobby Lobby; 800/323-9204; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com). **Jo-Ann Stores;** 888/739-4120; [joann.com](http://joann.com). **Michaels Stores, Inc.;** [michaels.com](http://michaels.com). **Cork chargers, gray napkins, wood vases**—West Elm; 888/922-4119; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Silverware, small wood bowl, white lamp with shade, ceramic bowl, frames**—IKEA; United States: 888/434-4532; Canada: 866/866-4532; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Photography in frames**—Jay Wilde Photography; e-mail: [jaywildepheography@yahoo.com](mailto:jaywildepheography@yahoo.com); [jaywildepheography.wix.com/wildestile](http://jaywildepheography.wix.com/wildestile). **Bedding** similar items available—Pottery Barn; 800/922-5507; [potterybarn.com](http://potterybarn.com) (product line varies). **Pastry cutters** similar items available—Wilton Enterprises; 800/794-5866; [wilton.com](http://wilton.com).

## BRANCH OUT

PAGES 72–77

**Wood shapes, paper glaze**—Michaels Stores, Inc.; [michaels.com](http://michaels.com). **Birch logs**—AdHocStock; [adhocstock.etsy.com](http://adhocstock.etsy.com). **Fabric adhesive**—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; [joann.com](http://joann.com). **Wall paint** Hep Green #SW6704—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; 800/474-3794; [sherwin-williams.com](http://sherwin-williams.com) [P]. **Lamp** vintage—Porch Light Antiques, Des Moines; 515/255-5900; [porch-light-too.net](http://porch-light-too.net). **Stool** vintage—West End Architectural Salvage, Des Moines; 515/243-4405; [westendsalvage.com](http://westendsalvage.com). **Rug, tote**—Dash & Albert Rug Co.; 800/658-5035; [dashandalbert.com](http://dashandalbert.com). **Laptop skin**—Decal Girl; 888/653-1430; [decalgirl.com](http://decalgirl.com). **Boxes for project**—Target Stores;

800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; [target.com](http://target.com) (product line varies). **Fabrics for box project, stool** discontinued, similar available—Joel Dewberry; [joeldewberry.com](http://joeldewberry.com). **Wallpaper for desktop** by Katarina Roccella; [spoonflower.com/profiles/katarina](http://spoonflower.com/profiles/katarina). **Small white bowl, blue bowl**—homeowners' collection. **Art pencils and brushes on desk, tape dispenser**—Design Ideas; 800/426-6394; [designideas.net](http://designideas.net). **Bird notebook**—Galison Press; 800/670-7441; [galison.com](http://galison.com). **Stacked notebooks**—Ecojot; 800/836-6669; [ecojot.com](http://ecojot.com). **Seamstress**—Margaret Sindelar, Cottonwood Classics, West Des Moines, Iowa.

## FRESH PERSPECTIVE

PAGES 78–83

**Sofa**—Lee Industries; 800/892-7150; [leeindustries.com](http://leeindustries.com). **Lamp**—Shades of Light; 800/262-6612; [shadesoflight.com](http://shadesoflight.com). **Casters for coffee table**—Dunn & Co.; 800/728-3866; [dunncasters.com](http://dunncasters.com). **Sisal rug** purchased before painting—World Market; 800/267-8758; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com). **Pieces for coffee table construction**—IKEA; United States: 888/434-4532; Canada: 866/866-4532; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Sequined seafoam pillow**—Anthropologie; 800/309-2500; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com). **Bowl with apples**—CB2; 800/606-6252; [cb2.com](http://cb2.com). **Wool and felt for pillows**—Decadent Fibers, LLC; [decadentfibers.com](http://decadentfibers.com). **Wall paint** Aquaduct #SW6758, green paint for rug and vase Topiary Tint #SW6449, blue paint for rug Fountain #SW6787, pink paint for rug In the Pink #SW6255, gray paint for rug Morning Fog #SW6255—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; 800/474-3794; [sherwin-williams.com](http://sherwin-williams.com) [P].

## ROLL WITH IT

PAGES 84–91

**Wallpaper with gold flowers on white background, gold flowers on black background, and black flowers on white background** Petal Pusher, red floral wallpaper in white frame Lush in red, wallpaper in bedroom Forest Leaves in white, wallpaper in hallway Knots in white, wallpaper for large planter

Seahorse in coral, wallpaper with leaves for small planter holding red flowers Lovely Leaves, wallpaper for small planter holding white flowers Poppy—Hygge & West; [hyggeandwest.com](http://hyggeandwest.com). **Light blue wallpaper with leaves on easel** Ribbed in turquoise, wallpaper on folding screen at fireplace Remix in turquoise, green wallpaper on folding screen by yellow chair Wildflower in green—Ferm Living Shop; [fermlivingshop.com](http://fermlivingshop.com). **Marble-and-chrome easel**—Jonathan Adler; 800/963-0891; [jonathanadler.com](http://jonathanadler.com). **Red leather chair**—Jayson Home & Garden; 800/472-1885; [jaysonhome.com](http://jaysonhome.com). **Red throw**—Crate & Barrel; 800/967-6696; [crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com) (product line varies). **Stump table at green screen**—West Elm; 888/922-4119; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Silver frame, white frame, rugs at bed, black lamp, wood cabinet custom, rug in living room, yellow chair** vintage with powder-coated paint—homeowners' collection.

## BRILLIANT BURLAP

PAGES 102–107

**Window curtain** Hemstitch Linen window panel—Serena and Lily, Inc.; 866/597-2742; [serenaandlily.com](http://serenaandlily.com). **Chair** Cute-as-a-Button Erin—World Market; 800/267-8758; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com) (product line varies). **Rug** Tangerine Dream—Dash & Albert Rug Co.; 800/658-5035; [dashandalbert.com](http://dashandalbert.com). **Dark pink fabric on pillow** Herringbone in Berry from the Modern Meadow collection by Joel Dewberry—through Hawthorne Threads; [hawthornethreads.com](http://hawthornethreads.com). **Framed posters** Apple Slices and Four Fruit—Slide Sideways; [slidesideways.etsy.com](http://slidesideways.etsy.com). **Gray-and-cream herringbone rug, shade** Draped Shade curtain, scarf on chair Around-the-World eternity scarf—Urban Outfitters; 800/282-2200; [urbanoutfitters.com](http://urbanoutfitters.com). **Flowered rug** Festival rug—Anthropologie; 800/309-2500; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com). **Ankle boot** similar available—El Naturalista; [elnaturalista.com](http://elnaturalista.com) for retailers near you.



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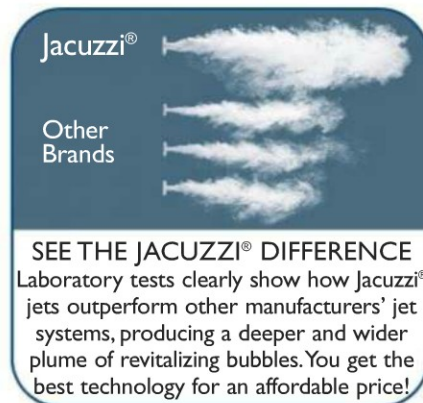
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2



3



4



5



6



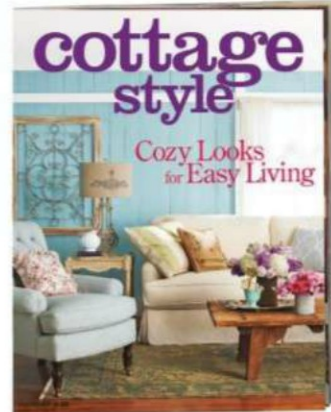
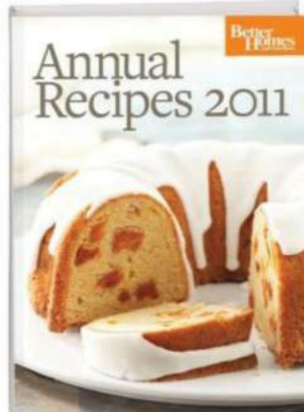
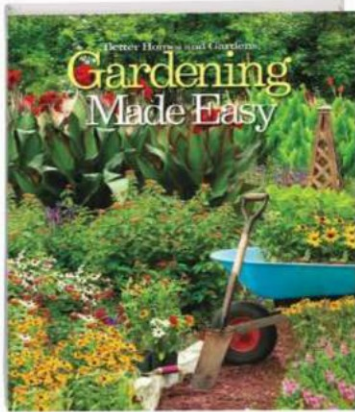
Do It Yourself™ (ISSN 1075-1033), Fall (July) 2013, Volume 20, No. 3. Do It Yourself is published quarterly in January, April, July, and November by Meredith Corp., 1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023. Periodicals postage paid at Des Moines, IA, and at additional mailing offices. SUBSCRIPTION PRICES: \$19.97 per year in the U.S.; \$23.97 (U.S. dollars) per year in Canada and overseas. POSTMASTER: Send all UAA to CFS. (See DMW 7074.12.5) NON-POSTAL AND MILITARY FACILITIES: Send address corrections to Do It Yourself, P.O. Box 37508, Boone, IA 50037-0508. In Canada: Mailed under Publications Mail Sales Product Agreement No. 40069223. Canadian BN 12348 2887 RT. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Do It Yourself, 2835 Kew Dr., Windsor, ON N8T 3B7. Better Homes and Gardens is a registered trademark in the United States, Canada, and Australia. Better Homes and Gardens marca registrada en México. © Meredith Corp. 2013. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.



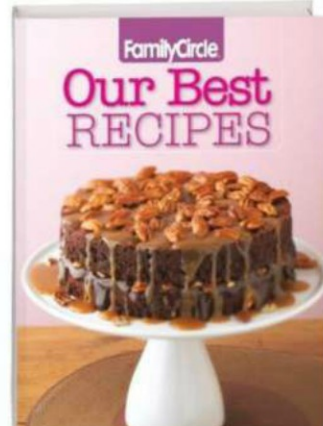
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